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Near East & South Asia

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CONTENTS

8 March 1990

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

ACC States To Defend Jordan Against Israel	[Cairo AL-WAFD 1 Mar]	1
Ministers To Discuss USSR Jews' Emigration	[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 1 Mar]	1
GCC Tripartite Committee Meets in Riyadh	[SPA]	1
'Draft Document' on Libya-Sudan 'Solidarity'	[Omdurman Radio]	1

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Criticizes PFLP-GC Leader Ahmad Jibril	[Beirut AL-SAFIR 2 Mar]	2
DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on Differences	[Algiers Radio]	2
Intifadah Leadership Issues 'Woman's Call'	[Baghdad VOP]	4

ARAB AFRICA

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Says Relations With France 'Normal'	[JANA]	7
UN Envoy Meets With UN Secretary General	[JANA]	7
Al-Qadhdhafi Attacks Corruption at Congress	[Tripoli TV]	7

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

U.S. 'Not Serious' in Pressuring Israel on Peace	[KUNA]	13
Mubarak Representative To Discuss Relations	[KUNA]	13

PDRY

Nu'man Meets PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen	[Aden Radio]	13
Qian Qichen Meets Al-Bid	[Aden Radio]	13

Saudi Arabia

Envoy in Philippines Brushes Aside Terror Story	[UKAZ 27 Feb]	14
---	---------------	----

United Arab Emirates

President Holds Talks with Tanzanian President	[WAKH]	14
Belgian Role in GCC-EC Trade Ties Urged	[WAKH]	14
National Federal Council Names Members	[AL-ITTIHAD 4 Mar]	15

IRAQ

Indian Premier's Envoy Arrives With Message	[INA]	16
Praises Iraqi Peace Stance	[INA]	16
Meets With Saddam	[INA]	16
Paper Calls for UN Meeting on Jewish Emigration	[INA]	16

ISRAEL

Alignment: No Decision Means Negative Reply [Tel Aviv Radio]	17
Shamir Does Not Pledge 11 Mar Answer to Baker [Jerusalem Radio]	17
'Thousands' Demonstrate Against Baker Proposal [Jerusalem Radio]	18
Shamir Favors Elections if Coalition Breaks Up [Jerusalem Radio]	18
Ministerial Appointments Reported Approved 6 Mar [Jerusalem Radio]	18
More Appointments; No-Confidence Moves Defeated [Jerusalem Radio]	18
E. Jerusalem Neighborhood 'Secretly' Under Way [HA'ARETZ 8 Mar]	19
Talks on Normalization of Ties With GDR Resume [Tel Aviv Radio]	19
'Secret' Fatah-Hamas Meetings To Plan Positions [AL HAMISHMAR 8 Mar]	19
Jerusalem Areas' Population Statistics Reported [MA'ARIV 8 Mar]	19
Health Ministry Report: 'High' Water Pollution [Jerusalem Radio]	20
Civil Administration Offers Help to Gaza Hospital [Jerusalem Radio]	20
Intifadah 'Has Not Affected' Health System [Tel Aviv Radio]	20
One-Third of E. Jerusalem Press Items 'Censored' [HA'ARETZ 7 Mar]	20
IDF Kills 5 'Terrorists' in Security Zone [Tel Aviv Radio]	21

JORDAN

King Husayn on Jewish Emigration, Mitterand Talks [Amman Radio]	22
Amnesty International Leader Meets With Badran [Amman TV]	22
Meets Crown Prince [Amman Radio]	22
Indian Parliamentary Delegation Departs 7 Mar [Amman Radio]	23
University Students Protest Jewish Emigration [PETRA-JNA]	23
Source Warns Against Exaggerating Israeli Threat [Jerusalem AL-QUDS 6 Mar]	23

LEBANON

RJO Conditions for Hostages' Release Reported [AFP]	24
'Awn Reportedly Agrees to Dialogue With Al-Hirawi [VOL]	24
'Awn Comments on Six-Point Plan, LF Media [Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon]	24
Al-Husayni on Al-Ta'if Agreement Amendment [Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon]	24
Amal, Hizballah Clashes Reported in Southern Suburb [VOL]	24
Syrian Forces Contain Clashes [Beirut Radio]	24
Israeli Mock Raids Over E. Sidon Reported [VOM]	25
AFP: 2 Palestinians Killed in South Lebanon	25
Resistance Fighters, Lahd Militia Clash in South [Beirut Radio]	25
Al-Huss Makes Statement Upon Return From Morocco [Beirut Radio]	25
Hizballah Radio Criticizes U.S. Policy [Voice of the Oppressed]	25
Italian Daily Interviews Samir Ja'ja' [Rome LA REPUBBLICA 6 Mar]	26
Villagers Demand Expulsion of U.S. National [Voice of the Oppressed]	27

SYRIA

Al-Asad To Discuss Hostage Crisis in Tehran [Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 8 Mar]	28
Talas Speaks on Revolution, 'Strategic Parity' [Damascus TV]	28
Al-Asad To Address Revolution Anniversary Rally [Damascus Radio]	29
Lebanon's Al-Hirawi Arrives 'Suddenly' [Paris Radio Monte Carlo]	29
Returns Home [Damascus Radio]	29
Opposition Leaders Announce New 'National Front' [Paris AL-YAWM AL-SABI' 5 Mar]	29

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

8-Hour Kabul Curfew Announced 7 Mar [Kabul Radio]	34
Rafi' Introduces New Defense, Interior Ministers [Kabul Radio]	34
Keshmand on Government Coup Commission [Kabul Radio]	34
KUNA Cites Envoy on Fighting Around Kabul	34
High Command Says Coup Plotters 'Crushed' [Kabul Radio]	35

High Command Calls for Citizens' Return to Work [Kabul Radio]	35
President Najibullah Addresses Nation 7 Mar [Kabul Radio]	35
AFP Reports Gen Tanay Flees to Pakistan	36
Najibullah Visits Kabul Garrison, Meets Personnel [Kabul Radio]	36
Personnel's Message to Najibullah [Kabul Radio]	37
High Command Names Surrendered Persons, Units [Kabul Radio]	37
11 Military Officers Defect to Pakistan [IRNA]	37
PDPA Committee Secretariat Statement on Coup [Kabul Radio]	37
IRNA Reports Najibullah 'Struggling' for Kabul	38
Najibullah Declares Coup Attempt Over 7 Mar [Kabul International]	38
Gen Tanay Reportedly Meets Rebels, Returns Home [AFP]	39
Pakistani Official Confirms Return [Islamabad Radio]	39
BBC Sources Say Tanay in Pakistan	39
Najibullah Reported 'Operating From Safe Place' [Islamabad Radio]	40
AFP Reportage on Situation in Kabul 8 Mar	40
Foreign Embassies Hit [AFP]	40
Streets Quiet at Daybreak [AFP]	40
More Clashes in Provinces [AFP]	41
IRNA Reports Zabul Falls to Mujahidin	41
Courts Created To Deal With Conspirators [Kabul Radio]	42
Decree Expels Coup Leaders From Defense Council [Kabul Radio]	42
AFP Reports Najibullah Holds News Conference	42
Pakistani Spokesman on Najibullah, Tanay Location [Islamabad Radio]	43

India

2 'Senior Afghan Officials' Defect in Delhi [KUNA]	44
Commentary Analyzes Abortive Coup in Afghanistan [Delhi International]	44
Minister Goes to Egypt as Singh's Special Envoy [Delhi TV]	45
'Thousands of Hindus' Flee Unrest in Kashmir [AFP]	45
'Terrorists' Kill 22, Injure 35 in Punjab Town [Delhi Radio]	46
Prohibitory Order in Meerut Due to Holi Festival [Delhi Radio]	46

Iran

President Views Economy; Notes Hostages Issue [IRNA]	46
Tanay Sought Rabbani Help in Kabul Coup Plot [IRNA]	47
TEHRAN TIMES on Afghan Coup Attempt [IRNA]	48
JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI on Kashmir, Afghanistan [IRNA]	48
Perez de Cuellar Presents Iran-Iraq Peace Plan [IRNA]	49
Meets With Envoys [Tehran Radio]	49
Peace Plan Detailed [IRNA]	49
Iraqi Stance on Resolution 598 Chided [IRNA]	50
'Large Number' of Casualties in Tehran Protests [Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio]	50
Velayati Returns From 5-Country African Tour [Tehran Radio]	50
Omani Envoy Encourages Expanding Relations [IRNA]	50
Imports of Oil Products To Cease by End of Plan [IRNA]	51
Government To Publish Drug-Related Execution List [IRNA]	51
Fajr-3 Missile Reaches Mass Production Stage [Tehran International]	51
Repaired F-5 Plane Makes First Test Flight [Tehran Radio]	51
Clandestine Radio Reports on Unrest, Suppression [Radio of the Iranian Toilers]	52

Pakistan

Spokesman Denies Involvement in Afghan Crisis [Islamabad Radio]	53
Bhutto Reviews Afghan Situation, Apprises Khan [Islamabad International]	53
Commentary Views Causes of Afghan 'Revolt' [Islamabad Radio]	53
Paper Reports Afghan Convoy Reaches Peshawar [THE PAKISTAN TIMES 6 Mar]	53
Ishaq Khan, Bhutto Attend Security Briefing 6 Mar [Islamabad Radio]	54
House Speaker Holds News Conference on USSR Visit [Islamabad Radio]	54
Food Minister Discusses "Successful" Moscow Trip [Islamabad Radio]	54

Sri Lanka

PFLT Denounces Declaration of Tamil State [Colombo International]	54
Government To Consider Repealing Secession Clause [AFP]	55
Police Reveal Slain IPS Journalist JVP Activist [LANKAPUVATH]	55
Speedy Implementation of Rule of Law Urged [SUN 23 Feb]	56
Paper on Indian, Tamil 'Dirty Tricks' in Colombo [DAILY NEWS 16 Feb]	56

Inter-Arab Affairs

ACC States To Defend Jordan Against Israel

JN0303143790 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
1 Mar 90 p 1

[By 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources stress that during their summit in Amman on Saturday, the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] leaders agreed that Egypt, Iraq, and the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] would intervene militarily in case of an Israeli military threat to Jordan.

The sources point out that the Jordanian monarch, King Husayn, informed President Husni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih that Israel had increased its provocations along its 480-km border with Jordan. The sources emphasize that the four leaders discussed the possibility that Israel would resort to military force to implement Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's plan on an alternative Palestinian homeland in Jordan.

The sources explain that Egypt recently warned Israel against increasing Israeli military concentrations along the Jordanian border.

The same sources say that President Mubarak and King Husayn decided to intensify mediation efforts to convince Syria and Iraq to settle their differences in the interest of Arab issues. Egypt has also welcomed the Iraqi-Jordanian plan to revive the eastern front to confront the Israeli military threat. The front includes Iraq, Jordan, Syria, and the PLO.

AL-WAFD has learned that the ACC summit also discussed conducting joint military maneuvers.

Ministers To Discuss USSR Jews' Emigration

PM0503090690 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 1 Mar 90 p1

[Excerpt] Moscow—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from Arab diplomatic sources in the Soviet capital that an Arab League ministerial delegation will arrive in Moscow on Monday to discuss a number of issues, especially the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel and Israeli attempts to settle them in the occupied Arab territory.

The Arab delegation will be headed by Algerian Foreign Minister Sayed Ahmed Ghazali and will include the foreign ministers of Iraq, Syria, Tunisia, and Palestine, as well as the Arab League secretary general. [passage omitted]

GCC Tripartite Committee Meets in Riyadh

LD0603110690 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0957 GMT
6 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 6 March (SPA)—The second meeting of the Tripartite Ministerial Committee composed of the Bahraini Minister of Information Tariq al-Mu'ayyad, Kuwaiti Finance Minister Jasim al-Khurafi and Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, was held this morning at the headquarters of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] General Secretariat in Riyadh. The meeting was attended by the GCC Secretary General, 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, and the assistant secretary general for political affairs, Sayf Hashil al-Miskari.

The meeting comes in implementation of the resolution adopted at the recently held Muscat summit. The ministers will discuss a report prepared by the GCC General Secretariat dealing with economic, information, political, and security matters in the light of international developments. [passage omitted]

'Draft Document' on Libya-Sudan 'Solidarity'

EA0703110090 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1930 GMT 4 Mar 90

[Text] Here is the draft document on solidarity between Sudan and the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ]:

(?On the basis) of the realities of the world today [words indistinct] and small entities; the current situation of the Arab, Islamic, and African states with their disunity, fragmentation, and lowly status; for [word indistinct] the principle of unity, which is at the heart of the Islamic creed and is the first requisite of united Arabism; to ward off the onslaught of the imperialists, Zionists, and crusaders who support each other in attacks against our beliefs and our right to a free and decent life; and in keeping with the objectives of [words indistinct] which await our hearty amity and the unity of our strength so that we can protect our dignity [words indistinct] our lives and (?prosperity) and accomplish our mission in the world, the (?two presidents) have agreed to sign the accord for the establishment of solidarity between the Republic of Sudan and SPLAJ in accordance with the following:

A. The objectives:

1. To integrate the popular and official work programs in the political, economic, social, diplomatic, and military fields in pursuit of overall unity;
2. To struggle together for the revival of an Arab, Islamic, and African awakening at continental and world levels and for the establishment of an international system based on peace, justice, and cooperation;
3. To work within the scope of Arab, Islamic, and African relations with the existing Arab cooperation

councils, the League of Arab States, the Islamic Conference Organisation [ICO], and the OAU for the expansion of the extent of cooperation and coordination within the unity movement;

4. [Word indistinct] the concepts of cooperation and unity, and practical pursuit towards them within the scope of Arab, Islamic, and African contacts through bilateral and regional relations and through their organizations such as the ICO, the League of Arab States, and the OAU.

B. The program:

1. Politics: to unify the vision and assessments relating to the different political stands; to hold joint sessions between the General People's Congress and the Popular Committees' Congress, as well as between other equal political institutions, in order to coordinate political work; to coordinate between the institutions of diplomatic representation in stands, exchange of information, and joint programs;

2. The economy: to achieve economic cooperation and integration; financial policy: working for a united taxation system; the currency system: financial institutions; industry and agriculture: to establish joint projects; to participate in existing projects with elements of finance, manpower, management, and common departments.

Transport and communications: to build roads linking the two countries; to extend the railways; to unify the telephone and postal services, and air transport.

Trade: to open up border trade; to free trade exchanges from all restrictions; and to unify the system of external and internal trade.

Energy: to link the electricity networks; to unify the facilities for oil exploration, its exploitation, and expansion; to exchange (?scientific) research on solar energy and mineral wealth, and to participate in exploiting them;

3. Education, culture and guidance: to coordinate curricula [word indistinct] and integrate study courses at university and higher education levels, in scientific research and educational production; to record Arab, Islamic, and African culture, to then cooperate and work together for their conveyance to the world, and particularly to Africa; to unify radio and television coverage and press services in the two countries and organize the exchange of information; to unify external information services;

4. Society: to unify laws on the basis of the Islamic shari'ah; to coordinate orientation and social organization programs; to unify health and social welfare; to produce medicines and medical and health equipment; to enhance popular relations and lift restrictions on the movement and cooperation between the two countries and the realization of equality and merger between the two countries;

5. Security: to exchange security information and coordinate the movement of security organs; to unify military curricula and to cooperate in the systems of military and (?regular) training; to conclude military pacts for (?supply) and common defence.

6. (?Doctrine): to spread the Islamic call and Islamic values across the world; to bolster and disseminate the Arabic language and culture and to use it in education and [word indistinct]; to enhance Arab, Islamic, and African ideological dialogue to bring views and principles closer and to promote unity;

C. Organizational institutions: first, on the official level, they include the higher authority, the administrative authority, and the general secretariat:

1. The higher authority: it shall be constituted of the leaders of the two countries, a ministerial body, and a general secretariat. The higher authority enhances the process of integration by laying down plans and instructing the bodies concerned to prepare and implement projects, to coordinate policies and positions, and appoint a secretary general for integration.

The ministerial body will consist of the ministers of foreign affairs, finance, economy, industry, agriculture, education, labor, information, justice, defense, energy, and mining, in addition to the high commands of the regular forces. This body will implement the joint projects and will meet every six months in the state which chairs the higher authority.

A general secretariat will be set up with a secretary general to be appointed from one of the two countries for a renewable term of two years. [passage indistinct]

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Criticizes PFLP-GC Leader Ahmad Jibril

NC0703170690 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic
2 Mar 90 p 12

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has denounced Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC). He indicated that a special committee has been formed to investigate Jibril's "excesses" [tajawuzat].

In an interview with French Television the day before yesterday, 'Arafat also declared that he denounces all acts of terrorism, specifically the attack on the Israeli tourist bus on the Ismailia-Cairo desert highway.

'Arafat declared his readiness to negotiate with any Israeli party, regardless of its political affiliation. At the same time he said it is incomprehensible why the Israelis allow themselves to impose whomever they want or to define the modalities of the negotiations.

DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on Differences

LD0703215190 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Interview with Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, DFLP, by unidentified correspondent; date, place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] We are glad to receive brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP. Brother Nayif, welcome to Algeria. Brother Nayif, before we begin this dialogue I would like to ask you a simple question: How is the front doing?

[Hawatimah] The DFLP is very well. We constitute a single, united, and cohesive organization in its ideological, political, organizational, and military structure. This has emerged, during the front's 21 years of history, in the extremely high degree of cohesion which enabled us to always be an active force by greatly contributing to the formulation of Palestinian policies.

We are one of the pioneers, we can even say with confidence that we are the pioneers of the temporary national program of the PLO. We are one of the pioneers in the formulation of the project of the state of Palestine and the Palestinian peace initiative and I believe that we will remain this way because we have a united intellectual, political, and organizational training [as heard]. We also have a permanent realistic spirit in harmony with the dynamic of the vivid local, national, regional, and international reality.

[Correspondent] You have talked about the Palestinian peace project and in fact there were, brother Nayif, recent reports on the existence of differences between yourself and brother Yasir 'Abd Rabbu regarding this Palestinian peace initiative. How true are these reports?

[Hawatimah] In all honesty, I do not believe that any of this exists. These are campaigns to which we in the DFLP are accustomed, particularly on the eve of every anniversary of the DFLP and every important Palestinian political event. If we recall the course of events in the past 25 years, we find that on the eve of every DFLP anniversary, which falls due on 22 February, there are waves of such allegations reporting problems and affairs within the DFLP. This also happens when the Palestinian national cause reaches a major turning-point and is faced with major choices, and this leads to such propagandistic campaigns or, to be more precise, campaigns of allegations. However, after a few days or weeks all this is put aside and forgotten because the reality points to something different. It points to our realistic unionist Palestinian policy. If any ideas appear in our ranks they are part of the plurality of ideas which exist on the Palestinian arena.

As you know, the Palestinian political arena is based on a plurality of parties, policies, and views. Our national cause is going through a phase of national liberation and before every phase of national liberation we find ourselves, at every turning-point, facing various choices. We have to decide on one final choice. As a result, many individual judgments emerge and it is only natural that such judgments appear.

I remember very well in the history of the Algerian revolution, for example, the Soummam Congress in 1956 where the number of participants was at the most one and a half times the number of the fingers on my two

hands. Despite this the Soummam Congress lasted over 20 days because it had to define the effective choices of the Algerian revolution which was then at a turning-point. I remember very well that when France proposed the right of the Algerian people to self-determination the Algerian leadership entered the meeting in the summer and left it in the fall. This operation lasted three full months. [passage omitted]

In this respect, I know very well what was carried by the news agencies in the past few days, more precisely on the eve of the 21st anniversary of the founding of the DFLP. Matters were presented in an extremely ludicrous and caricatural way: Who is in favor of the U.S. solutions and who is opposed to the U.S. solutions; and in a caricatural way: Who is with 'Arafat, and, there is a gap between 'Arafat and whom? This is an illustration which clearly demonstrates that all these allegations are of no serious nature but their purpose is to cause a storm in a teacup on the eve of the great national annual anniversary of the DFLP and, in the heat of the current Palestinian situation and heated talks aimed at defining a path toward the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue on which way it should go in light of the U.S. projects, Baker's plan, the Egyptian projects, and the Israeli projects.

Therefore, I say that the situation in our part of the world, the Middle East region, is highly complex. This requires reflection, a realistic spirit, and wisdom in order to resolve all these issues which cause storms every now and then. These storms soon turn out to be just storms. What remains is only what benefits the people and this is all that is left behind.

[Correspondent] So, no meeting of the Political Bureau or the Central Committee was held here in Algiers about two weeks ago in an attempt to unify the ranks within the front?

[Hawatimah] There was a meeting of the DFLP Central Committee early February in Algiers and this is quite a normal thing for us. We are a democratic organization and our internal regulations stress the need for the Central Committee to convene at least once every six months. In view of our Palestinian circumstances, such sessions are not always held in the same country. For instance, sometimes they are held in Algeria, or Tunisia, Baghdad, Damascus, or wherever need be. Moreover, the session of the Central Committee held early February in Algiers was not held in Algiers only because of the political circumstances and the political climate prevailing in the discussions and the debate, but also because it was a full session of the Central Committee attended by militants who had come from very, very sensitive regions and we wanted to guarantee the best conditions of security and safety for those militants. That is why we chose a secure region where the Central Committee could meet without encountering any difficulties, and to be totally frank, primarily difficulties of a security nature. This had already been done not only in the framework of the DFLP but also in the framework of the entire Palestinian revolution and the PLO, and we

must all remember that the three major national councils held after the total invasion of Lebanon were held in Algiers which is an oasis of safety conducive to peace of mind. In such conditions all the issues can be tackled free from the pressure of time and free from any security hassles which might appear if, for example, the Palestinian National Council is held in Damascus, Baghdad, or Amman because the possibility of hostile acts of sabotage occurring is much greater. [passage indistinct]

This is not true. We all know that the Baker Plan has a procedural character pertaining to the holding of elections in the occupied Palestinian territories, that is, the Palestinian Bank and the Gaza Strip. We all know that the PLO tackled this issue during the (?meeting of the Central Council) in Baghdad last October [words indistinct].

Before going to that meeting, we in the DFLP and the Fatah leadership and in my presence and the presence of brother Abu Ammar discussed our replies to the Baker plan and we defined out (?positions) with regard the five principles which we took with us to the Baghdad meeting. The Baker Plan raises the need for negotiations on the arrangements for the elections in the Palestinian Bank and the Gaza Strip. On the basis of the proposed first phase after the elections, the plan calls for negotiations with the Israeli Government to find a solution to the Palestinian issue.

We in the DFLP and the PLO have affirmed that we are ready for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo or any other capital, on condition that the PLO alone form its delegation with members from inside and outside the territories with a view to preserving its (?national independence) [words indistinct] and on condition that this operation takes place under international supervision, especially the supervision of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. [remainder of item indistinct]

Intifadah Leadership Issues 'Woman's Call'

*JN0703194490 Baghdad Voice of the PLO
in Arabic 1752 GMT 7 Mar 90*

["Text" of Call No. 53, "the woman's call", issued by the PLO, the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah (UNLI) "throughout the lands of the occupied state of Palestine"; date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Call, call, call. Call No. 53, the woman's call. There is no voice that can rise above that of the intifadah. There is no voice that can rise above that of the Palestinian people, the people of the PLO. The call is issued by the UNLI.

O masses of our heroic Palestinian people; O heroes of the stones and barricades: Look, our giant intifadah waged by our giant Palestinian people is continuing and

escalating regardless of the barbaric and fascist means and methods of repression invented by the occupation authorities' mentality to quell the intifadah or weaken its offensive. This intifadah is being stepped up, thanks to our efforts—the efforts of people who have recorded, through the blood of their sons, feats of heroism and valor in a determined effort to dismantle the occupation and achieve their legitimate national objectives of freedom, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

O people of the PLO: At a time when the news media is beginning to highlight the anticipated meeting between the three foreign ministers, the UNLI would like to reiterate its adherence to the Palestinian peace plan, which expresses our people's longing and yearning for a just, comprehensive, and durable peace and to affirm, on behalf of our people's masses, that the PLO, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian people, is the only party authorized to compose and announce the formation of a Palestinian delegation comprising people from outside and inside [the occupied territories] to the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. This dialogue must have an open agenda. In addition, it must constitute a preliminary step to the convening of an effective international conference to be attended by the permanent members of the UN Security Council and all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, which must attend such a conference on an equal footing.

The UNLI warns our people's masses of the U.S.-Israeli maneuvers propagated by the news media—maneuvers that speak of the existence of lists already made up containing names of members of the Palestinian delegation or which attempt to insinuate that there is Palestinian endorsement of the composition of the delegation in accordance with a U.S.-Alignment perspective and that the only thing that remains to be done is to convince the Likud to accept this perspective. The attempt by the Alignment to appear as a party that desires peace cannot conceal its policy of ignoring our people's rights and bypassing the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. A genuine desire for peace should lead to recognition of our people's national rights and to acceptance of dialogue with their sole legitimate representative.

The UNLI emphasizes its rejection of the attempt to submit the names of the Palestinian delegation in the marketplace of negotiation and stresses that this is only an attempt to throw dust in the eyes to distract our people's attention from their continuing and escalating intifadah and to cover up the process of settling Soviet immigrants in the occupied lands of the state of Palestine. The news blackout recently imposed by the Israeli Government on this emigration has the same objectives.

O masses of dignity, intifadah, and independence: While commending some Arab voices that have condemned Soviet Jewish emigration to the occupied lands of the state of Palestine and American policy in our region, the UNLI reiterates its call on Arab countries to hold an

urgent summit to discuss this strategic issue. It also calls on all Arabs to break their silence, or their reliance on verbal rejection alone, and to take practical measures, using Arab oil and funds to stop this direct emigration and to pressure the United States into opening its doors to those immigrants and abandoning its hostile policy toward our cause and our Arab nation—a policy that is totally biased toward Israel.

The UNLI also calls on some Arab countries, particularly Syria, to release political prisoners and thousands of Palestinian detainees from their prisons. The UNLI reiterates its call on Soviet President Gorbachev to stop the direct Jewish emigration to Palestine—emigration that is threatening the present and future of the national Palestinian cause and that obstructs efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the region, stressing that freedom and democracy cannot be given to one party at the expense of another. Granting freedom should not constitute a violation of international norms and charters that stipulate that the emigration of citizens from one country to another should be agreed upon by the two concerned countries. This is taking place at a time when our Palestinian state has not agreed, and does not, and will not agree to receive those immigrants.

O masses of the gigantic intifadah: In the recent past, the Palestinian president hugged Nelson Mandela, the historic leader, stressing the unity of the Palestinian and South African peoples against the racist regimes in Tel Aviv and Pretoria. The UNLI, while congratulating the people of South Africa once again on behalf of our Palestinian people on the occasion of the release of Mandela and some of his colleagues, calls on the international community to continue to pressure the racist twin regimes in South Africa and Israel into releasing detained strugglers. The UNLI also repeats its invitation to African leader Mandela to visit our occupied Palestinian state and obtain firsthand information about the repressive and terrorist circumstances under which our two struggling peoples are suffering.

O valiant masses of our people: While hailing the acts of bravery carried out by our kinfolk in Bayt Liqya, Biddu, Rafah, Qabatiyah, al-Yamun, 'Ayn Yabrud, al-Sawahirah, and all the cities, villages, and camps of our Palestinian state, the UNLI declares the following:

International Women's Day: Progressive nations celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March, as a day of struggle for the world's women's masses. While celebrating this great day, in the name of all the sons of our people, we congratulate the world's women's masses and the masses of the Palestinian women's movement and its vanguard organizations, hailing every woman, female struggler, and housewife, and especially our captive strugglers. We also pay tribute to the struggling role of the Palestinian intifadah women's movement, to every mother who has lost a son, daughter, husband, or brother, and to every woman who meets with a struggling daughter or a heroic son from behind the Bastille of the Zionist enemy.

The UNLI calls for organizing marches, festivals, and mass women's sit-ins on this day. The UNLI also announces that the 2d of March will be considered an official paid holiday for all female workers in our national institutions.

The anniversary of al-Karamah: The 21st of March marks the anniversary of the battle of al-Karamah, in which the Palestinian fighter, armed with unity, will, determination, and the fighting Palestinian rifle, inflicted the first defeat on the Zionist invading machine, restoring the dignity of the Palestinian and Arab man on the day of al-Karamah. A greeting of dignity and intifadah for the memory of the Palestinian and Arab people's martyrs and the heroes of the al-Karamah battle. On this day, let the earth burn and blaze under the feet of the invading occupiers and the herds of settlers.

Mother's Day: While the UNLI congratulates our Palestinian mothers on Mother's Day, it bows to the mothers of our martyrs—men and women—who have sacrificed their blood for the sake of the homeland, and considers their sufferings and pain the source of our strength and determination. The UNLI also considers the 21st of March a day to honor the mothers of our martyrs, detainees, and deportees. In this regard, the UNLI calls on human-rights organizations to pressure Rabin into repatriating deported Palestinian women who have been separated from their children, husbands, and the territory of the homeland, and also to apply pressure to stop these deportation campaigns.

Universities and colleges of higher education: While the UNLI states that the occupation's enforced decision to open some educational colleges came as a result of the intifadah's pressure and international pressure on the Shamir government, it calls on the masses of our people, our students, and teachers to continue to step up the campaign to force the occupation authorities to open our universities and the rest of our colleges, which have been closed since the beginning of the intifadah. The UNLI also calls on the international community to put pressure and sanctions on the Israeli Government to force it to submit to the demand for the freedom of education of our people.

In this respect, the UNLI announces that 10 March—the day of the university student—is a day for national student conferences in every region to be held around our closed universities and colleges to demand opening them and releasing all detained students.

Schools and students: The UNLI calls on our sons at school to adhere to the times for attending school, fixed by the UNLI until 1200, and to organize the educational process by cooperating with the teaching staff and administrations of these schools on a basis of mutual respect. This will prevent the occupation authorities

from succeeding in their attempts to harm the educational process from the inside by planting agent elements, now that our people have rendered their stultification policy—represented in closing down the schools—a failure.

In this respect, the UNLI declares that days of mourning are days of school, and for our students to go on strike during the first period, but then resume the normal educational process. The unified student committees call on each school to supervise this process.

Summer time: The UNLI announces that summer time for the state of Palestine starts 10 March 90.

Detention camps and prisons: While the UNLI salutes our valiant detainees locked up behind bars in Zionist detention camps and prisons, it calls on the masses of our people and various national figures to support and back their struggle, especially at Ansar III, where the detainees are carrying out a legitimate struggle to thwart the latest attempt of the detention camp administration to isolate the detainees inside metal cages.

Green cards: The UNLI calls on all national institutions such as factories, companies, and others, to take in and employ our sons who carry green identity cards.

The days for special escalation: 17 March marks a day to revive the memory of the heroic 'Akko prisoners: Assir, Hijazi, Shamshun.

11 March marks a day to protest the emigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestinian territory.

General Strike Days:

—9 March shall be a day of general strike on the occasion of the beginning of the 28th month of the intifadah and in commemoration of the female martyrs of the Palestinian women's movement and all the martyrs of our people.

—20 March shall be a day of general strike to express our people's rallying around the PLO and its right to form and declare its delegation for dialogue from home and abroad.

The Palestinian Flag Day: The UNLI announces that 25 March shall be a day for the Palestinian flag. On that day, our streets and alleys shall be decorated with Palestinian flags.

Decision No. 1: The UNLI has decided to amend the opening hours of commercial stores as of 10 March—the beginning of summer time. Stores shall open from 0900 until 1400. At the same time, the UNLI declares that this amendment does not cover industrial areas, including factories and companies outside these areas, which shall continue their working hours as previously specified by the UNLI. The UNLI calls on our strike forces to supervise the implementation of this program and to confront firmly any attempt that might be carried out by the occupation authorities to break this program.

Decision No. 2: The UNLI has decided that 26 March shall be a day on which stores shall open from 0900 until 1700.

The UNLI welcomes any initiatives by the popular masses, popular committees, and local, territorial, and sectorial leaderships. It declares that all the days of March are days of escalation and confrontation with the occupation forces and the herds of settlers. Victory is inevitably ours.

Signed: The PLO, the UNLI, the state of Palestine

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Says Relations With France 'Normal'

LD0703192990 Tripoli JANA in English 1830 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Rabie [March] 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In response to a question from JANA on the Libyan Arab-French relations, the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau stated the following: First, the leader of the revolution Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi talked in the secret session [of] the General People's Congress held yesterday—Tuesday—about the relations between Jamahiriya and France indicating that those relations had experienced a period of tension but their bilateral problems had ended and France had lifted the embargo imposed on some kinds of sales to Great Jamahiriya.

Second, Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asserted that relations between Jamahiriya and France had returned to normal and the few coming days will witness the settlement of some matters which accompanied the period of tension witnessed by those relations. Soon the contacts and communications will be resumed to what they were whether in the field of telephone contacts, marine transport and other fields and also in the economic and financial fields.

Third, Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asserted that Jamahiriya gives a special importance to its relations with France. He pointed out to the efforts exerted by the brothers King Hassan II and presidents Husni Mubarak, Chadli Bendjedid, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and other brothers which were the direct reason for the return of those relations to their normal status and all problems between the two countries were surpassed.

UN Envoy Meets With UN Secretary General

LD0803120890 Tripoli JANA in English 1643 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] New York, al-Rabie [March] 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The resident envoy of Great Jamahiriya to the U.N. met this morning Javier Perez de Cuellar the secretary general of the United Nation to discuss with him the immigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Arab Palestine and the dangers it poses to security and peace in the region. He expressed to him the Arab concern about such immigration. He also emphasized the need to stop it and to abide by international resolutions confirming prohibition of building of settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Great Jamahiriya's envoy to the U.N., in a statement to JANA's correspondent in New York, said that the U.N. secretary general had briefed him on the last round of the Cypriot negotiations last week which were conducted at his supervision with the participation of both the Greek and the Turkish communities.

Al-Qadhdhafi Attacks Corruption at Congress

LD0703230190 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Speech by Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the General People's Congress session in Tripoli on 6 March—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God.

Good evening. The first remark is that your voice outside, as relayed by the radio, is not comforting. This is due either to the fact that you stand very close to the microphone and knock it or to the fact that the technicians are unable to control the sound and relay it as it should be. [passage omitted]

I have something to tell you. I will say it in two parts. One part is public and will be relayed as it is in the open session, and the other part is secret, which will be in a closed session. I mean there is a public part and a secret one. We should try to be brief.

On the 2 March speech, there was a head of state and several foreign delegations. My address was directed to the world, most of it was directed to the world. [passage omitted]

But now I will talk about what concerns us.

You started to think about the issue of accountability. The secretaries of the people's committees of the people's bureaus abroad should be made accountable. This is for their own benefit and for the people's benefit. This is because there is a lot of talk about them, and not all the talk about them is true and correct. They say that the treatment at the people's bureaus is bad; they spend on one person and refuse to spend on the other; and they meet someone at the airport and do not meet another. I heard all that you have been saying. It reflects on all the people's committees of the people's bureaus abroad. Therefore we must know exactly which bureaus practice such behavior and which are innocent, and what is true and what is not. Therefore, every people's bureau should come every year before the General People's Congress and bring all its records. This is as from this month. In the General People's Congress next year, God willing, every people's bureau should bring its records. I do not want anyone to say: This is my colleague's fault, and change the committee or the system. We only know the people's bureau. We do not know this person or that. [passage omitted]

Then there are the public companies, about which I warned you several times. In fact, the national economy as a whole is based on, and its backbone is, the public companies. We have said that we have approximately 200 public companies. There are nearly 250,000 Libyans whose lives are linked to these public companies. These companies are living in a world of their own. Their accounts are never finalized. There are many things and reports about them. They say some are loose, some are not productive, some [words indistinct], and if it is an

industrial company, it distributes the money for buying the raw materials to the workers and employees as salaries and keep them in this way without any production. The people must make them accountable. What are they doing? If you formed a company, then you should make it accountable to you and see whether it has carried out the duties for which it was formed or not.

I have before me something, and I do not know whether it is a joke or a report. It says: Production has increased as a result of the absence of the workers. A problem occurred in a factory because of the selection, so they called them to Tripoli. On the day the workers were called to Tripoli, and they stayed for one or two days to solve the problem of selection, the production of the factory increased 110 percent. Hence the statement: Production has increased as a result of the absence of the workers. I want you to investigate this. I told Mr. 'Umar of the General People's Congress that I want you to investigate this matter.

Why do they say: The foreigners are the ones who work, and the Libyans are living at the expense of the foreigners, and when the foreigners [word indistinct] they were producing freely and the work was alright. If this is the case, then we are deceiving ourselves. We should send them to another place, and they can even be shopkeepers, instead of saying that they are workers, producers in a factory and giving them salaries on the pretext that they are manufacturing such-and-such substance. How can the people deceive themselves to this extent?

Therefore I saw that the accountability of the public companies to the BPC [Basic People's Congress] is not sufficient. They should be made accountable to the General People's Congress, and the members of the General People's Congress bring with them what the BPC has said about these various activities. Therefore, the final account is to the General People's Congress, for every single company. Every company should submit its capital, investments, profits, losses, number of workers and their status and what is for them and against them, how the income of the company is distributed, and what is the duty for which the Libyan people formed this company. [passage omitted]

We want the hotels to employ Libyans, but now before me I see that a very high percentage of the workers are foreigners. How can we employ the sons of others? They should be employed by their countries. If you have unemployment, can you go to the Netherlands and say: O Netherlands, can you take 1,000 workers and employ them in your hotels? They will say: No, if we have 1,000 employment opportunities we will give them to our children and not to the children of Libya. [passage omitted]

Then there is the matter of sending people abroad, for all reasons, during the past year, and every year. All the authorities responsible for sending people abroad,

whether for educational scholarships, delegations, medical reasons, or any other activity are under this headline, and their expenses and their needs. This should be compared to the resolutions of the BPC and what the BPC has said about that. How can they say to me that a company has sent a soccer team to Algeria? I told you that soccer has now become part of international politics. I would rather play against an American team than a Tunisian team, because playing against an American team creates hatred between us and them and it is a kind of confrontation. I do not want this to happen with a fraternal country like Tunisia, with whom we are repairing relations and we are trying to establish unity.

One day an Arab leader complained bitterly to me about another Arab country. He was angry with it, as if there were a border problem or a war. He said they insulted us and humiliated us, and did such-and-such to our players. [words indistinct] [laughter]

We should beware of this. If you want to ruin relations with Tunisia, then play against it. If you want to do that with Algeria, then play against it. The same with Egypt. I would rather play against the Israelis or the Americans than play against an Arab team. [passage omitted]

The Libyan people are now a very perceptive people. The Libyan people are more clever than any other people. The people who are an example of stupidity are the Americans. The American people are an example of ignorance. This American people, do you know what they say about death and taxes? They say there is no escape from death and taxes. It is known that the American citizen is the most ignorant citizen in the world. If you ask an American: Where is Panama in relation to Indonesia? He would say: Perhaps next to it. This is in spite of the fact that he considers Panama his enemy and fights it, and his children die there; he knows how to fight it but he does not know where it is.

There is no escape from death and taxes—the escalating taxes. Any capitalist country in the world applies escalating taxes. As your income increases, the taxes increase, (possibly up to 90 percent). Otherwise, the 400 very wealthy families in America would swallow the whole country. Look at the American, British, Italian, and German Governments; they have no money of their own. They get their money from the escalating taxes. The Libyan people do not know these things. [Words indistinct] They say do not increase taxes, abolish the escalating taxes. The escalating taxes should not exceed 35 percent. This is scientifically wrong. If there are escalating taxes, then you cannot put a limit to them. Escalating means that as your income increases, the taxes increase. If you earn 1 million, then you should pay 900,000 to the state. [passage omitted]

Anyway, you have directly spent from your treasury 500 million dinars. You made 20,000 Libyan families owners of farms. They gave you back 10 million. Do you approve of this? I do not think so. There is a law saying: Whomever is given a farm by the people should pay back

its price every season. Was it not money with which we gave you the farm? Now you have a farm which gives you an income. [passage omitted]

[Voice from the hall] The brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Land Reclamation mentioned what was spent on the farms given for ownership, but what was spent on the land reclamation sector from 1970 until 1989 is 4.332 billion dinars.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I know, I know. This is 4 billion. These are for public projects and things like that. But I am talking about 20,000 Libyans for whom we made 20,000 farms and on which we spent 500 million Libyan dinars, and now they are doing all right and living in prosperity. Then they should pay back something every season to the people, so that we get back our money in 20 years. You should issue a law, and whoever does not apply it should be punished. How can you reject such a law? Perhaps I took a farm among the 20,000 and I want to avoid paying back. If there is no law, then all right. But for the people to come and say: Never mind, we will spend money on you from our budget—500 million—without repayment! How come? [passage omitted]

Anyway, the most important thing is to have a revolutionary program. This means that relying on foreigners should end completely. Otherwise we cannot consider ourselves liberated. Non-beneficial consumption should also end completely; otherwise, we will perish. Death is embodied in consumption.

The Soviet Union, with all its greatness, was deceived. They say to it: Why does America have this and that and you do not? [words indistinct] Why does Germany have this and that? Why does Britain have this and that? At the end, the resources of the Soviet Union have become insufficient for its people. Consumer goods (?will ruin you). Ice cream and such things. It borrowed from West Germany [words indistinct]. West Germany lent it 3.5 billion [currency not specified]. Gave it a loan. Why? It said this 3.5 billion is for renewing my factories. They said all right. Now, it says, I have the money, and the people are demanding (?consumer goods), so it took half of the money, or even more, about two-thirds, and spent them on nonsense. [words indistinct] This is because it deviated from the revolutionary program of communism. [words indistinct]. Now it has unemployment, riots, and problems. This multiparty system will not take them anywhere. Every day there are demonstrations and conflicts. They have fallen in another swamp, the swamp of the multiparty system. Every party would ruin anything to reach the seats of power. We know that. The problem of Nicaragua has not been resolved. What can the government do? The armed power is in the hands of the previous government. [passage omitted]

Consumption is what we are talking about. The Soviet Union has fallen into its trap. Consumption made the Soviet Union use the money it borrowed to buy factories for buying consumer goods and put them in the market. Now it is borrowing and borrowing and it now obeys all

the conditions imposed on it. American put it as condition that the Jews emigrate to Palestine in order to spite the Arabs. The Soviet Union said: What do I have to do with the Arabs; would you give us money? The Americans said: We will. It said all right. Now you can see with your eyes, they are descending the steps of the aircraft and entering Palestine. This is not propaganda. This is a fact we are telling you about. What is the reasons? Deviation from the revolutionary program.

Consumption is ruin, brothers, I swear by God that if you perform the pilgrimage 20,000 times you will never go to paradise the way the Libyans are going now. Pilgrimage should be performed once, and the one who has not performed the pilgrimage, but is pious, straight, looks after his family, and ploughs the land, he will by God go to paradise without the Holy Ka'bah [words indistinct] [applause] [passage omitted]

Every day columns leave to perform the minor pilgrimage. This is money you are giving to Saudi Arabia. Is Saudi Arabia short of cash? Its money is with the Americans, billions of it. [passage omitted]

I mean this is a form of consumption, a smuggling of currency abroad. If you have money, give it to Dar al-Hadhanah [a children's home], social security, the Palestinian intifadah, and you will go to paradise. [passage omitted]

I call on all the revolutionaries in the people's committees and in the secretariats of the people's congresses to withdraw as of today [applause]. I allowed them to join, to be selected, to take charge of people's committees, to take charge of people's congresses, a company, a place, a people's bureau on the basis that there is a revolutionary program, and they help you to implement it. If the people have abandoned the revolutionary program—and the situation is very ordinary as you can see—this does not call for the participation of the revolutionaries with you. You want them, you want to fight with them, at least there will be a reserve revolutionary movement. If you want us even to protect you, to guard over you at night, fine. We are your sons and soldiers, but we will not participate with you in this (?chaos) taking place now. Impossible! No. [passage omitted]

If you want corruption, find someone corrupt, not a revolutionary person like [Mustafa Muhammad] Zaydi [health secretary]. Find another corrupt person [applause]. Those revolutionaries will either implement a revolutionary program or they will withdraw as of today. Go and search if you want personal connections, go and choose the most corrupt person who operates at this level. [passage omitted]

Brokerage [samsarah] at home—you should enact laws concerning it. Make laws concerning it and present them to the people. Brokerage becomes legal, one link in the chain of the economic activity. Let several thousands of Libyans take this job opportunity. Make laws concerning brokerage: One who has no license would not be allowed to be a middleman. If I have a farm with produce that I

cannot sell in Benghazi and I live in Misratah, and a middleman comes, I sell him the produce. He carries it in his car and sells it in Benghazi. Thus he serves the people in Benghazi, he took the oranges or other produce to them. He brings apples to us from al-Jabal al-Akhdhar to al-Zawiyah al-Gharbiyah and so on. But brokerage abroad should be banned. No Libyans, companies, or private capital should import goods from abroad for us and collect millions at your expense. No. The official public sector, official companies, secretariats are the one which import from abroad and there is no middleman at all. There is no broker between us and Italy or between us and Egypt or between us and India. This should be clear. You do not even distinguish between unlawful [haram] and lawful [halal] brokerage. Brokerage with the outside world is unlawful and at home it is lawful. Let laws be enacted in this way.

Among the things which has caused corruption is housing. We said housing should be reduced. We produced steel and iron, and we produce building iron. The Misratah iron factory produces construction iron: The price of a house should have declined greatly since we have begun to produce and we no longer import. We should discuss this: What is the reason? Is it because the factory's raw materials are imported? Are the salaries of Libyan workers too high? We must discuss all this. [passage omitted]

Housing is the responsibility of each one, brothers. Each one is free. The period when we have very poor people living in huts is over. We built for them 100,000 rather 250,000 houses. Devise something. Do not go to any authority asking for a house. What house? Go to a housing company, sign a contract with it, pay over two years and it will build you a house. Set up housing cooperatives and build. Who will give you a house? All the offices dealing with houses should be closed. [passage omitted]

Give up your salaries: one thousand million each year. Leave it in the treasury, and we will give you these things. But to draw salaries and then say give us other things for free, this is not right. You should live on your salary; this includes the expenses of your car, food, your drink, your house. [passage omitted]

Every street should have a people's court. And everyone who notices corruption should report it to the court, whose address should be given and declared. If you see that so and so behaved corruptly, you immediately report him. If someone came to you and says do me this personal favor, report him. [passage omitted]

So that no one will come to a civil servant and ask for a personal favor, or if a citizen came to someone and bargained with him over anything, a man or a woman, this citizen should immediately report to the court and say: I went to ask a certain civil servant to do something for me and he bargained with me, asked me for a bribe or anything. [passage omitted]

This way we can end corruption, each one reports on the other in order to rid the country of this corruption. All have the right to report corruption. [passage omitted]

The socialist register: Anyone who does not register his farm and his property in the socialist register in accordance with the law issued by the people's congress—they will be considered not his and lawsuits will be brought against your property and you will not be able to defend it. [as heard] A farm which you have not registered in the new socialist register: Anyone who hears that you have not registered your farm can come and take it from you. You say: Shame on you, this is my farm, my property. Tell him: You did not register it. The one who has property should register it. We want property to be divided equally among the Libyans. This is the purpose.

Every public employee like policemen and others should go with the movement of the hands of the clock. Everyone should know himself: This year Gharyan, next year al-Zawiyah, the year after Tripoli, the year after al-Khums, the year after Misratah, after it [name indistinct], after it Ijabyah, after it Benghazi, and so on to do a turn like the judges now, like the judicial system. Each public employee, he serves the people anywhere, above all the police. A policeman should not stay with his family or cousin. This is one of the causes which makes corruption take root: this is his cousin, this is his tribe, this [person] he cannot arrest, he cannot search him, he cannot report him. Then comes someone you do not know [word indistinct]. The one who is not ready to move with the movement of the clock should leave, this is not compulsory [as heard].

If I was helping you, if I was helping you I could go to the people and say to them: I have this one and that one and that one, and here is a list, a huge list like this one, and they are suitable to implement your resolutions. I would have presented them to the people, then the people would say: alright we accept them and we delegate them to implement our resolutions at the People's Congresses. This is one way.

Another way is to submit drafts and say this draft and that and that are the ones by which the agricultural, industrial, health, educational, services, and other revolutions could be achieved. Oh people, choose the people you like to implement this program. I submit the drafts and say: These are the recommendations, drafts, or views for fulfilling all your wishes and make this country into a paradise. All you have to do is to choose the people's committees to implement this list. The people could choose anyone to implement them. They would be responsible to the people. The most one can do, when you cannot do anything else, is to prepare the drafts, put them in a list and say these should be implemented in such-and-such way, then bring another list with the people whom you considers revolutionaries, qualified or technicians who can implement these drafts and give the list to the people. This is the program, I prepared it for you, and here are the people whom I consider able to implement the program—I give them both to you, the

people, to approve them. When the people agree both lists, that is it. Here is the program and here are the revolutionaries, technicians, or the qualified ones, the people have put them in the executive positions, and from then on they become responsible according to this ordinary democratic way before the People's Congresses.

This is if I wanted to help. But I do not want to help you. As from today I withdraw the revolutionaries. They will not be part of any selection. At the coming selection next month, or I do not know when, no one from the Revolutionary Committees Movement, Free Unionist Officers Movement, or the Revolutionary Officers will become a member of any people's committee or the secretariat of any Congress. You choose any people you want, and let them implement your resolutions and implement the things you want. As for us, as I said to you, if you want us to be guards we will be guards, if you want us sentries we will be sentries and that will be alright, or if you want us to stay at home then we will.

The revolutionary program should have included distributing the opportunities among the Libyans. In a secret session in a little while I would like to explain this matter a little to you. The distribution of opportunities will be [discussed] in a secret session. The just distribution of opportunities among the Libyans. This is to guarantee the just distribution of wealth among them. I mean you cannot be a baker, farmer, shopkeeper, taxi driver, truck driver, and a teacher. You cannot have five opportunities. You should quickly distribute the opportunities among yourselves, because there are urgent things, which I will tell you about soon, that makes this demand necessary. If you do not take these opportunities others will take them.

The maxim of partners without delay—every worker should quickly become a partner, a true partner in production. There are cunning attempts to avoid it, there are delays in implementing it, and there are attempts to kill it. All the workers must become partners in every position. We raise the slogan partners without delay. It was in a revolutionary program.

You have decided several times about barter. This means that you are now committed to it. If you want rice, then you bring wheat. If you want chocolates made in Italy, then you bring dates produced in Libya. This is barter.

The ration booklet [kutayib istihlaki] has become necessary, and at the closed session I will tell you the reason.

The supply should be according to the need. You have decided that many times. What do you need? This, that, and that. That is it. We only bring these things, whether from home or abroad. [passage omitted]

If we want a revolutionary program then the cooperatives program should be implemented immediately. The agricultural cooperatives, the services cooperatives, the

production cooperatives, and the consumption cooperatives. All the Libyans would be in consumption cooperatives, and all the farmers should be in agricultural cooperatives. [passage omitted]

The individual effort has now become unable to achieve anything. There is the state effort and individual ownership. Therefore you should not get rid of the public sector or of the state adoption of everything. The ownership is for the individual but the effort must be the effort of the state.

Look at the Europeans who abandoned the revolutionary program in Eastern Europe or the Soviet Union. Look at their situation. They are deteriorating. That is it. This is the beginning of their crisis. In the past there were no beggars and no one was unemployed in Eastern Europe. Now there are thousands of them, and in the future there will be even millions of unemployed.

Do not listen to such words as: The public sector did not work or did not succeed. Indeed, state ownership perhaps may not succeed. And exploitative ownership is now being rejected by the workers, and it will not succeed. But socialism is the one that will succeed. It is better to have state ownership than to have an exploiting individual ownership, because the state ownership means the people's ownership, even if it is rejected as a result of ignorance.

The move to [commodity] production as an alternative to petroleum should not remain a slogan and mere words. This is inevitable. It is imperative to have a real program to change all the Libyans from consumers to producers. If this program is approved then it should be implemented by force—by the force of the popular will which approved it.

The revolutionary program is countered by a hostile program—the colonialist program, which addresses you everyday from London and Voice of America and all their radios, and all the reactionaries who are hiding in this region. Everyday it promotes capitalism, consumption, freedom of trade, regionalism, defeating any unionist program, nonintervention of the state, no public sector but private sector, increasing salaries, and increasing taxes. If you do all these things you will have to increase salaries. When you increase salaries you will have to increase taxes. When you increase taxes you will increase consumption. When you increase consumption there will be no production. When there is no production you will be in debt, and you will buy from the others on credit. This debt will lead to bankruptcy, inability to pay, and you will be colonized again.

The colonialists themselves have drawn up a program to counter the revolutionary program. Every morning if you listen to the Voice of America it calls for abolishing socialism, and for the private sector, freedom of trade, state noninterference, giving people freedom and consumption. This is because it wants you to follow the pattern as Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union have

now followed it. This is their scheme—a counterrevolution. If the people own everything, then there is no need to increase salaries. There is even no need for the salaries themselves. If I work as a doctor or teacher among you, or I do a public service such as sweeping the street, then I do not want a salary. Just give me a paper which I can take to the market and get food, drink, and clothes which I consider as sufficient for me, and if I get more than that, then I would say this is not right, why should I deprive this people who gave me this card—that is if I have a good conscience. I do not want any salary at all. It is also

possible that I will find it sufficient to have a salary of pocket money only, with which I buy a card to go to the cinema.

But if we make the market free, then the salaried persons will not be able to survive. They will need to increase their salaries, and if the market hears that the salaries have been increased then by the morning prices will increase. The prices of water and flour will increase ad infinitum.

Let the doctor [Dr. Muftah al-Ustah 'Umar, secretary of the General People's Congress] now make it a closed session.

Kuwait

U.S. 'Not Serious' in Pressuring Israel on Peace

LD0803100490 Kuwait KUNA in English 0709 GMT
8 Mar 90

[Text] Kuwait, March 8 (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Daily AL-RAY AL-A'AMM has urged Arab countries to wake up from their day dreams on the possibility of realizing genuine and just peace with Israel without using their capabilities to press for their demands.

In a front page editorial, the paper regretted that the Arab countries were unaware of the repercussions of the U.S.-backed Israeli plots against their nation.

"It is obvious that America is not serious in forcing Israel to take any move toward peace but on the contrary it is (the U.S.) encouraging it to occupy more territories and establish settlements on them," the paper charged.

"We heard a lot about dialogue and alleged pressure by the U.S. Administration on Shamir to persuade him to adopt practical steps in the interest of peace process but one cannot overlook the fact that it is in the interest of the U.S. to maintain political instability in Israeli occupied Arab land," the paper said.

Mubarak Representative To Discuss Relations

LD0703143390 Kuwait KUNA in English 1156 GMT
6 Mar 90

[Text] Kuwait, March 7 (KUNA)—Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman al-Shahin Wednesday conferred here with 'Usamah al-Baz, director of the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's Office on Issues of Mutual Concern.

Al-Baz told KUNA following the meeting that the talks covered bilateral relations and ways to boost cooperation between Egypt and Kuwait. He described the Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations as excellent and [words indistinct] noting that such relations are crowned by the existing ones between His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad and President Mubarak.

Al-Baz added that both sides exchanged views and information on a number of important Arab, regional and international issues.

Al-Baz earlier today gave a lecture at the Foreign Ministry devoted for new Kuwaiti diplomats, where he touched on major issues on the Arab arena topped by the Soviet Jews immigration to the occupied Palestine and the recent changes in Europe.

PDRY

Nu'man Meets PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen

EA0703092390 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 5 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Brother Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, this afternoon met Mr. Qian Qichen, member of the Politburo of the CPC and PRC foreign minister, who currently is visiting the country. They met at the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

The brother chairman of the Council of Ministers in the meeting expressed appreciation for the level of development in the cooperation between the friendly Yemeni and Chinese peoples. The brother prime minister said the PRC was one of the states with which our country established diplomatic relations following the attainment of national independence on 30 November 1967. After that, cooperation and friendship between the two friendly countries developed in numerous fields, leading to enhanced mutual benefits for the Yemeni and Chinese peoples.

Regarding this, he stressed the importance of the meetings and discussions between the Yemeni and Chinese sides during the course of the Chinese foreign minister's visit lay in the experience gained from the relations between the two countries in the past and the successes thus achieved. In this respect, the wishes of the two peoples for further cooperation in fields compatible with their needs and serving their mutual interests should be considered.

Brother Dr. Yasin Sa'id Nu'man explained the forthcoming single central Yemeni state, for which preparations were being made throughout the Yemeni arena, would become a source of happiness, progress and prosperity for the Yemeni people. Far from being directed against anyone, the state would become an entity of true stability. Its role would contribute to the reinforcement of regional security and peace. It also would be a strong incentive to unify Arab efforts to reinforce mutual trust and integration to achieve their ambition of comprehensive Arab unity.

Cooperation between the two friendly countries and ways of developing them, as well as a number of Arab and international issues of mutual interest, were discussed during the meeting. [passage omitted]

Qian Qichen Meets Al-Bid

EA0703081490 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] secretary general, this afternoon in his office met comrade Qian Qichen, member of the CPC Politburo and PRC foreign minister, with whom he discussed relations between the two friendly parties and countries. The secretary general reviewed the latest developments

in the Yemeni arena, particularly the current unification efforts between the two parts of the homeland, as well as developments in the region. He expressed appreciation for the level reached by relations between the two friendly parties and countries.

Comrade Qian for his part conveyed the greetings of the CPC secretary general to the brother secretary general of the YSP. He also said he was pleased to be visiting Democratic Yemen and meeting a number of party and government officials, with whom he had discussed various issues of interest to the two friendly countries.

At the end of the meeting, the secretary general asked comrade Qian to convey his greetings to the CPC secretary general.

The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister; Ibrahim Abdallah, our ambassador to the PRC; and the Chinese ambassador in Aden.

Saudi Arabia

Envoy in Philippines Brushes Aside Terror Story

PM0503155390 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic
27 Feb 90 pl

[By Muhammad Mahjub]

[Excerpt] Manila, by telephone—In an exclusive statement to 'UKAZ, Fu'ad Hasan Faqiy, the Kingdom's ambassador in Manila, has denied reports that the killers of the three Saudi diplomats in Bangkok have arrived in Manila. He emphasized they would be arrested if they did go there, pointing out there is full coordination between the governments of Thailand and the Philippines regarding this.

His excellency also said: The cowardly acts of terrorism will not deter us or prevent us from doing our work and discharging our duties in the service of our religion, king, and country. We believe in fate and, as sons of the beloved homeland, we are prepared to sacrifice everything, including our lives, for the homeland.

In denying that the three diplomats' assassins had arrived in Manila, the ambassador said there were some suspicions regarding certain individuals who recently had arrived in Manila from Bangkok.

His excellency further emphasized there was coordination and special arrangements with the Philippine authorities in Manila to secure and protect the embassy and its employees.

He urged travelers and businessmen coming from the Kingdom to be careful and cautious, but he denied the embassy had received any threats or anything of that kind. He said the embassy had not had any problems during the last five years. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

President Holds Talks with Tanzanian President

JN0703175690 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Mar 7, (GNA)—UAE [United Arab Emirates] President Shaikh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al-Nuhayyan opened talks today with Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

[Manama WAKH in English at 1645 GMT 6 March reports, "Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi arrived today for a three-day visit to the UAE. "He was greeted at the airport by UAE President Shaikh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan and other officials.]

The UNITED ARAB EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY (WAM) said the two leaders discussed the Gulf situation and the efforts to settle the Iraq-Iran dispute.

The two leaders expressed satisfaction over the prevailing stability in the region and stressed the need for activating efforts to bring about a permanent peace between the two Moslem neighbours, Iraq and Iran.

They also discussed the Palestinian problem and voiced support for Palestinian struggle against all sorts of repression and intimidation, stressing the need for the Palestinian people to regain their legitimate rights.

Other issues discussed included African and joint efforts by the Organisation of African Unity, the Arab League, the Non-Aligned Movement to boost Afro-Arab cooperation, back African liberation movements and fight racism.

Shaikh Zayid praised ties between the UAE and Tanzania as historic and said they should be developed to serve the joint interests.

He also hailed the role of the Tanzanian president to strengthen relations with Arab states to serve his people and development in his country.

Mwinyi invited Shaikh Zayed to visit Tanzania. The invitation was accepted and a date is to be set.

Belgian Role in GCC-EC Trade Ties Urged

JN0403171290 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT
4 Mar 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, March 4 (GNA)—United Arab Emirates Economy and Trade Minister Sayf al-Jarwan met today with Prince Albert of Belgium, who arrived last night with a trade delegation.

The meeting was attended by the Ministry's Undersecretary 'Abd-al- Ra'uf al-Mubarak, Assistant Undersecretary for Trade Affairs Muhammad Jasim al-Mazki, and Assistant Undersecretary for Economic Affairs 'Atiq 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Atiq.

The talks, which were attended from the Belgian side by the trade minister covered ways to boost economic and trade cooperation.

Al-Jarwan said the visit would contribute to bolstering ties between the two countries.

Later the joint UAE-Belgian committee held talks under the chairmanship of Al-Jarwan and his Belgian counterpart. The talks were attended by Prince Albert, Al-Mubarak and other officials.

Al-Jarwan explained the industrial and trade progress in the UAE, saying the UAE was producing more than 200 items at competitive prices and high quality. He said the industrial sector's share in the national economy increased to 10 percent in 1989 from only one percent in 1975.

"The UAE is following a free economic system, making it a large market for several world products without restrictions or preference," he said.

UAE exports and reexports to Belgium stood at 92 million dirhams in 1988 and 29 million dirhams in 1989 while imports were worth 347 million dirhams and 334 million dirhams respectively, he said.

Referring to the economic agreement signed between the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council and the European Community in 1988, Al-Jarwan said it constituted a positive development in relations between the two groups.

"The GCC states are considered developing nations and hope they will reach a free trade accord with the EC that will remove several restrictions blocking movement of trade especially Gulf petrochemicals," he added.

He urged Belgium to exert efforts to reach that agreement.

The Belgian trade minister urged efforts to boost cooperation between the two countries and said his country was ready to discuss a pact on preventing double taxation and protection of investment.

National Federal Council Names Members

JN0503161290 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
4 Mar 90 pp 1, 21

[Federal Decree No. 31 of 1990]

[Text] We, Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhyayan, president of the United Arab Emirates: Taking cognizance of the provisional constitution and the report submitted by the minister of state for cabinet affairs, and following the approval of the Council of Ministers, decree:

Clause one: The National Federal Council for the first session of the eight legislative term shall comprise the following members:

Emirate of Abu Dhabi:

1. Faraj Bin-'Ali Bin-Hammudah
2. Rahmah Muhammad al-Mas'ud
3. Al-Haj 'Abdallah al-Muhayribi
4. Muhammad Salih Bin-Badwah
5. 'Abdallah Jum'ah al-Mansuri
6. Ibrahim Muhammad al-Hadidi
7. Ahmad Khalaf al-Mazru'i
8. 'Id Bakhit al-Mazru'i.

Emirate of Dubai:

1. Hilal Ahmad Lutah.
2. 'Abd-al-Rahman Sayf al-Gharir.
3. Muhammad Salim 'Ubayd al-Mazru'i.
4. Muhammad Khalifah Bin-Dhiban
5. Muhammad Jum'ah al-Nabudah
6. Sayf Rashid Hurayz
7. 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Ali Lutah
8. Sultan Bin-Batti Bin-Mijrin.

Emirate of Sharjah:

1. Muhammad Bin-Jarash Bin-'Ali
2. Dr. Salim 'Abdallah al-Mahmud
3. Rashid Muhammad Salim al-'Uways
4. Muhammad Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahi
5. Muhammad Sultan Bin-Huwaydin
6. 'Abdallah 'Ali Bin-Ya'ruf

Emirate of Ra's al-Khaymah:

1. Ibrahim Sultan al-Shamsi
2. Harib Sa'id al-Muhayri
3. Rashid 'Abd-al-Rahman Ahmad
4. Salih Ahmad al-Shal
5. 'Ubayd Sayf Jabr
6. Muhammad Hamid al-Basti.

Emirate of 'Ajman:

1. Khalifah Muhammad al-Muwayjji'i
2. 'Ubayd 'Ali al-Muhayri
3. 'Ali Muhammad Rahmah al-'Amiri
4. Muhammad Rashid al-Sha'ali

Emirate of Umm al-Qaywayn:

1. 'Abd-al-'Aziz Ahmad Sayf
2. Muhammad Salim al-Mulayhi
3. 'Abdallah Rashid al-Kharji
4. 'Isa Sultan al-Jabir.

Emirate of al-Fujayrah:

1. Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Salami
2. Khalfan 'Ubayd Khalfan
3. Ahmad Khalifah al-Shamsi
4. 'Abdallah Sa'id Rashid.

Clause two: This decree shall be implemented and published in the official gazette.

Indian Premier's Envoy Arrives With Message

JN0603143790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT
6 Mar 90

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Mar (INA)—Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn, Mrs. Najmah Hibatullah, deputy chairman of the Indian Council of States [name, title as received] arrived in Baghdad at noon today.

Mrs. Najmah told the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY that she is carrying a written message to President Saddam Husayn from the Indian prime minister. She added that during the visit she will discuss with Iraqi officials means of bolstering cooperation in all fields between Iraq and India.

Praises Iraqi Peace Stance

JN0703180590 Baghdad INA in English 1600 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Baghdad, Mar 7, INA—Vice Chairman of the Indian House of Senates and chairman of the Indo-Arab Friendship Society Mrs Najmah Hibatallah [name, title as received], hailed President Saddam Husayn's peace initiative, announced on 5th last January.

Speaking during a meeting with Mr 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, chairman of the Iraqi Friendship, Peace and Solidarity Organization, Mrs Hibatallah said that Iraqi peace initiative came to renew Iraq's solid and continued policy for peace and its sincere efforts to work out a permanent and comprehensive solution to the dispute with Iran and achieving peace and stability in the Arab Gulf region.

Iraq under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn achieved large-scale developments in all fields of life, the Indian official concluded.

During the meeting, discussion dwelt on promoting relations between Iraqi Friendship, Peace and Solidarity Organization and the Indo-Arab Friendship Society for strengthening means of cooperation among world countries.

Meets With Saddam

JN0703111290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Mar (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received a message from Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh dealing with relations between the two friendly countries.

Najmah Hibatullah, deputy chairman of the Indian Council of States [name, title as received], conveyed the message when President Saddam Husayn received her today.

The Indian charge d'affaires in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Paper Calls for UN Meeting on Jewish Emigration

JN0603110890 Baghdad INA in English 1020 GMT
6 Mar 90

[Text] Baghdad, Mar 6, INA—AL-QADISIYAH newspaper of Baghdad called on the Arab nation for serious action to disclose the propaganda dimensions of the Zionist scheme, aiming at achieving an ancient dream by establishing the "Great Israel" and settling hundreds of thousands of the Jews inside occupied Palestine.

Commenting on the Zionist recent propaganda campaign, the paper has said that one who follows developments of the events on the Arab arena, can conclude that the Zionist entity to pass a scheme, which constitutes a real danger against the Arab nation's hope, it deliberates to release some statements that have no relation with its well-designed scheme, with a view to distort the ideas and stances. [sentence as received]

The paper clarified that the Zionist entity intends to cover its crime with adequate legitimacy, while it received counter reactions by the Arab formal and popular circles and by the international circles.

The paper called on the necessity of serious action with all available means to disclose goals of the said Zionist dubious and sinister scheme, through supporting the appeals, calling for holding an immediate and extraordinary meeting to the U.N. Security Council to discuss the Soviet Jews exodus to occupied Palestine and dimensions of the Zionist scheme hostile to the Arab nation.

Alignment: No Decision Means Negative Reply

*TA0703120290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[By Mikha'el Birenhack from the Finance Ministry in Jerusalem—live]

[Text] A decision this coming Sunday—this is the Alignment ministers' demand, and to make it clear to the Likud the intention is serious, the Alignment's Central Committee will convene already on Monday. We heard Minister Moshe Shahal at the end of the Alignment ministers' meeting, which lasted less than an hour.

[Begin recording] [Shahal] We decided to empower the party's secretary general to convene the Central Committee, and he will be the one to decide the time [as heard]. We also decided the Labor Party Bureau should meet tomorrow to give its consent, so we can decide on our future actions immediately after the Inner Cabinet debate on Sunday.

[Birenhack] What if a decision is not made in the Inner Cabinet meeting on Sunday—will you go for a narrow-based government and elections? Is this what you will propose to the Central Committee?

[Shahal] Look, we should wait and see as to what we will propose to the Central Committee. It is clear, though, that lack of a decision by the Inner Cabinet is tantamount to a negative reply. [end recording]

All Alignment ministers share the position that the absence of a decision in the Inner Cabinet means a negative decision.

The following is a summary of Minister Shim'on Peres' remarks during the Alignment ministers' meeting: One should understand Shamir. He has new constraints, this time within his own camp. If Shamir backtracks on the positions the Likud adopted during the Likud ministers' meeting, the glue holding his own camp together will be gone.

Let me add the Labor Party Central Committee was supposed to meet next Thursday, not Monday, and by convening it on Monday the Alignment ministers are sending the Likud a clear signal.

Shamir Does Not Pledge 11 Mar Answer to Baker

*TA0703175490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] The Likud faction met this evening with the prime minister. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 7 March, reporting on the start of the meeting, says it was "Minister David Levi, Knesset Member (MK) Ari'el Sharon, and MK's associated with the constraints ministers attended. The Liberal MK's who wish to set up a separate Likud faction also came." The report adds that before the Likud faction meeting, "the constraints camp met in Minister Levi's office to

consolidate the position that will be presented to the prime minister in the Likud faction meeting."]

The meeting ended a few minutes ago without resolution. The debate will resume next week. The prime minister said during the session that before we give Baker any reply, it is necessary to coordinate positions with the Alignment. Mr. Shamir did not specify what response will be given the U.S. secretary of state. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen is outside the Prime Minister's Office:

[Kohen] If we try to find the main point in the prime minister's remarks, we would be able to say this: The prime minister did not pledge a decision on Sunday [11 March]. That is when the Inner Cabinet will conduct another meeting to pursue the debate that began today, but the prime minister did not promise a decision will be made. We will not be able, he said, to conduct negotiations unless we know whether our partner, the Alignment, agrees with us or not. It first is necessary to settle things with the Alignment, and only then talk to Baker and give him a yes or no.

Knesset Member Ari'el Sharon said after the session he is not pleased with what he heard:

[Begin Sharon recording] I think this is an attempt to hoodwink the public and the MK's. The main issue at the moment is whether an Arab resident of East Jerusalem will be permitted in the delegation. But no response was provided. It all was a matter of evasion and misdirection. The question is whether a deportee or deportees—PLO emissaries who preached acts of murder, terrorism, and the like—will participate in the delegation. No answer was furnished. I therefore think the process continues. This is an attempt to whitewash things. I believe the immediate main question is whether we will go to Cairo, but we did not get an answer to this, either. I therefore think this was a mistake and an attempt to mislead. [end recording]

[Kohen] Back to the remarks of the prime minister, who said: It is possible that at some point during the negotiations, the PLO will state the delegation to Cairo belongs to it. It is clear to the Likud it then will be necessary to get up and leave the talks. What the Alignment will have to say about this is something we must clarify among ourselves before we go to any negotiations.

Addressing the Alignment, Yitzhaq Shamir said: No one casts doubt on anyone's fealty to Jerusalem, and no one questions another's right to live in the city. It is clear to us if we agree to allow East Jerusalem Arabs to participate in the elections, this will prove to the whole world and the Arabs themselves East Jerusalem is Arab territory. The same holds true regarding the PLO: Those who accept its taking control over the representation of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el ultimately will lead us to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The prime minister emphasized the issue of Jerusalem was not raised deliberately; it is highly pertinent, however, and when elections for autonomy are discussed in Cairo, Jerusalem immediately will crop up. It therefore is no trick or stratagem. In this respect, there is no time; rather, it is necessary to reach a decision.

Minister David Levi demanded a resounding no be our response to Baker, without hemming and hawing either on the issue of deportees or East Jerusalem Arabs. Binyamin Netanyahu said during the Likud meeting: We never said we accepted Baker's points; we only said we are presenting conditions for the Alignment, after which we will continue our discussions. MK Re'uven Rivlin asked whether a decision had been made regarding Baker's question, and the prime minister replied: Everyone says what he wants to say. As we noted, the debate did not end and will resume next week.

'Thousands' Demonstrate Against Baker Proposal

TA0703182890 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in English*
1800 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Excerpts] In Jerusalem's Menora Square, thousands of right-wing demonstrators are calling on Prime Minister Shamir to reject the Baker proposal. Knesset members [MK's] from Tehiya, Moledet, and Tzomet say Israel must not sell out to the PLO. Miryam Herschlag reports:

[Begin recording] [Herschlag] An hour ago, police estimated the crowd at 2,000. About 500 marchers joined a short while ago, having walked from the U.S. Consulate. Mounted police are at the ready, but so far there have been no disturbances. The protesters are waving Israeli flags and holding signs condemning U.S. pressure to hold peace talks. Near the podium stands a donkey whose rider is an effigy representing the United States. [passage omitted]

In attendance are leaders of the settlement movement and representatives from the right-wing Tzomet, Tehiya, and Moledet parties. I asked MK Rehav'am Ze'evi, who supports transferring Arab residents of the territories, what Israel should say to Secretary of State Baker:

[Ze'evi] That he will deal with American problems, that he can attack Latin American countries, and to leave us alone to deal with our business by ourselves.

[Herschlag] Tzomet MK Yo'ash Tzidon had this to say to the Israeli Government:

[Tzidon] We would like the government to be more stern in its positions, exercise a national will, and stick to its own program.

[Herschlag] So what message are you sending to Prime Minister Shamir at this moment?

[Tzidon] Stay put, and when I say stay put, it means finishing off with the intifadah because it can be done. We believe it's a question of exercising one's will. [end recording]

Shamir Favors Elections if Coalition Breaks Up

TA0803063690 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
0600 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has said he has no intention of establishing a narrow-based government in the event of the government's dissolution, but would rather seek new elections. Mr. Shamir stressed he will do everything in his power to preserve the national unity government, but will uphold the Likud's principles. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports Mr. Shamir made these statements during a meeting with Knesset Member Hanan Porat of the National Religious Party.

Alignment officials earlier had expressed amazement at the fact Shamir plans to meet with representatives of SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] and Degel Hatora, saying Mr. Shamir is attempting to set up a narrow-based government.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew in a similar report at 0600 GMT on 8 March adds Shamir also "said the composition of the Palestinian delegation is dwarfed by the issue of Jerusalem's status and the PLO."]

Ministerial Appointments Reported Approved 6 Mar

TA0603175490 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
1700 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Text] Our political correspondent reports the appointment of Knesset Member David Magen as minister without portfolio was approved today in a telephone poll among the ministers. On the same occasion, they approved the appointment of Moshe Nisim as minister of industry and trade and Minister Moshe Qatzav as a member of the Inner Cabinet.

More Appointments; No-Confidence Moves Defeated

TA0703142590 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
1400 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] This afternoon the Knesset approved the new changes in ministerial portfolios, as well as David Magen's inclusion in the government. Minister Moshe Nisim was appointed industry and trade minister, Roni Milo will be labor and social affairs minister, and Rafi Edri received the ecology and environmental protection portfolio.

Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports the Knesset earlier defeated two motions of no-confidence in the government. Hadash [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] faction submitted one of the motions because of the government's economic plan, which it says hurts the weak sectors of the population. The Shinuy faction submitted the other defeated motion, which called for a vote of no-confidence in the government following the Likud ministers' resolution on the Baker plan.

E. Jerusalem Neighborhood 'Secretly' Under Way

TA0803080290 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
8 Mar 90 pp 1, 6

[By correspondent in Jerusalem Nadav Shragay]

[Text] A special team of the Jerusalem City Council for the last three months has been secretly working on plans for a new neighborhood on Mount Homa near Sur Bahir, in an area within the city's jurisdiction but outside the Green Line.

The last neighborhood within the city's jurisdiction that was planned—and still is under construction—in an area formerly controlled by Jordan is Pisgat Ze'ev (between Neve Ya'aqov and French Hill). This is the first time in four years the Jerusalem City Council is planning to build a new neighborhood in an area annexed to Israel after 1967.

The new neighborhood is scheduled to be built on an area of 900 dunams. The land is owned by the Israel Land Authority, after having been purchased by Hima-nuta, a subsidiary of the Jewish National Fund. The neighborhood is expected to comprise several thousand housing units.

Plans for the neighborhood in Mount Homa got under way prior to the political turmoil over the neighborhoods built in East Jerusalem.

In response to a question by HA'ARETZ, Avraham Kahila, the deputy mayor of Jerusalem in charge of construction affairs, confirmed a plan exists for the building of a Jewish neighborhood on Mount Homa. Kahila refused to furnish any details or comment on reports the actual planning of the neighborhood has begun.

A senior planning official in Jerusalem confirmed the report.

Talks on Normalization of Ties With GDR Resume

TA0703204090 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
2030 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] In Copenhagen today the GDR and Israel resumed talks toward normalization of bilateral relations. This was reported to the press by the East German and Israeli ambassadors in Denmark. The two countries launched preliminary talks on the establishment of diplomatic relations in late January. The two ambassadors refrained from divulging any details about the content of the talks.

'Secret' Fatah-Hamas Meetings To Plan Positions

TA0803101490 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
8 Mar 90 p 2

[By Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Secret contacts currently are under way between Fatah and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] to

coordinate positions regarding the territories. PLO officials and Islamic Brotherhood members affiliated with Hamas in the territories are conducting the contacts in Amman.

Palestinian sources in the territories told our correspondent Hamas is demanding Fatah dissociate itself from the Palestinian leftist movement, even if this comes at the expense of the Unified National Command of the Uprising. Hamas for its part is prepared to participate in the elections in the territories. Although it does not want to be part of the delegation to Cairo, it will not attack its members.

Although Fatah and Hamas have not yet reached an agreement, this is one of the reasons for the recent dispute in the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]. The Palestinian sources said a DFLP faction wants to join Fatah to facilitate the contacts, but the DFLP's leadership wants to join Fatah to facilitate the contacts. [sentence as published]

Jerusalem Areas' Population Statistics Reported

TA0803100390 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
8 Mar 90 p A2

[By Arye Bender]

[Text] What did U.S. President George Bush mean when he said he objects to the establishment of settlements in East Jerusalem? What did State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler have in mind when she described Jerusalem's suburbs as "occupied areas?" Both of them were referring to the eight new neighborhoods built in the capital after the Six-Day War, whose inhabitants long have forgotten they were built on land formerly controlled by Jordan. The neighborhoods and their population are:

Ramat Eshkol and Ma'alot Dafna (11,600), French Hill (9,600), Neve Ya'aqov (17,000), Ramot (29,000), Greater Sanhedria (4,500), Pisgat Ze'ev (6,500), East Talpiot (15,000), Gilo (28,000). With the addition of the Jewish Quarter in the Old City and its 3,000 inhabitants, we arrive at a total of 124,000 inhabitants.

Jerusalem expanded its jurisdiction shortly after the Six-Day War. On 28 June 1967, then Interior Minister Hayim Shapira signed the decree announcing the expansion of Jerusalem's jurisdiction and redefining the city's urban planning limits. A decision also was made on carrying out a major construction drive to prevent the repartition of the city.

Some 70,000 housing units have been built for Jews since the unification of the city. The city's jurisdiction has expanded from 38 to 108 square km, with construction developing in three stages. Greater Sanhedria, Ramot Eshkol, Ma'alot Dafna, Giv'at Hamivtar, and Giv'at Shapira (French Hill) were built in the first stage, from 1968 to the early 1970's.

The Rogers plan, released in the summer of 1970, hastened the second stage, in which Gilo, East Talpiyot, Ramot Alon, and Neve Ya'aqov were built. Pisgat Ze'ev was built in the third stage to establish Jewish territorial continuity between French Hill and Neve Ya'aqov. At the same time, building activities in the Arab section also increased, by 70 percent since the Six-Day War. More than 5,000 Arab houses were built within the city and over 6,000 in adjacent areas.

Health Ministry Report: 'High' Water Pollution

TA0803061690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] The water in approximately half the urban and rural settlements in Israel has found to be polluted. A Health Ministry report to be published shortly states high pollution levels were found in northern settlements, especially the small ones. The main reason for the pollution is the negligent maintenance of the water system. The level of pollution in the other settlements was very low.

Our correspondent Mikha'el Miro says the Health Ministry report relates to probes carried out during the last two years. Health Ministry experts asserted, however, the data remains valid today. Many settlements do not bother to improve the quality of their water, and 28 settlements do not regularly scrutinize the quality of their water supply.

Civil Administration Offers Help to Gaza Hospital

TA0703211190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] The Civil Administration is prepared to help develop and finance the overhead of Gaza's al-Ahali Hospital, a private hospital treating intifadah casualties who refuse to be admitted to al-Shifa' Hospital because it is a government facility.

The offer for assistance was announced by Brigadier General Arye Ramot, head of the Civil Administration in the Gaza Strip, during the graduation ceremony of a professional training course. He also said in the next few months the Civil Administration will establish two vocational colleges: one in Gaza and another near Dayr al-Balah.

Intifadah 'Has Not Affected' Health System

TA0703172290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 7 Mar 90

[By 'Ido Shargil]

[Text] The intifadah has not affected the health system in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. This was reported today by the heads of the health system in the territories. The data was published in anticipation of the WHO convention. Today approximately 1,800 Arabs,

plus only 11 Israelis, are employed by the health system. None of them have resigned since the outbreak of the intifadah.

UNRWA [UN Relief and Works Agency] activities also were addressed. That organization, claimed Brigadier General Freddy Zakh, deputy coordinator of government activities in the territories, exceeds its mandate. UNRWA personnel frequently spy on IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops, interfere with their duties, and fail to report on casualties.

[Begin Zakh recording] We have asked UNRWA to make sure its clinics report any casualty admitted, as is the practice anywhere else in the world. I believe a settlement to this issue, too, will be found, as we only want the administration to be informed—and by administration I mean either the police or the staff officer for health or any other body, not the defense establishment or the IDF itself. [end recording]

As for the private health system, Zakh said: We do not compete with this network, which was active even before the intifadah. We have no intention of preventing its development or growth, he added.

One-Third of E. Jerusalem Press Items 'Censored'

TA0703171290 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
7 Mar 90 p A3

[By Yizhar Be'er]

[Excerpts] An examination of the East Jerusalem Palestinian newspapers AL-SHA'B and AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI conducted by the Betzelem organization [Israeli information center for human rights in the occupied territories] has revealed the military censor has partially or fully banned more than one-third of the items presented. More than a quarter of the material originating in the Israeli press has been banned. In dozens of cases, the censor banned reports translated word for word from the Hebrew press. Some of the items censored were of purely political interest, including statements by Israeli ministers and figures, news concerning reports of human rights organizations, and items approved for publication in other East Jerusalem newspapers.

From the point of view of Israeli law, the East Jerusalem Palestinian press is Israeli; for all intents and purposes, therefore, it is submitted to censorship limitations according to the state of emergency defense regulations dating from 1945.

The Betzelem information sheet published this week reveals a situation in which reporters and editors of the Palestinian press have been conducting a self-imposed censorship in which they refrain from writing articles and reports that have slim chances of passing the censor. AL-SHA'B in January presented to the censor 357 items (reports, articles, pictures, and so forth), of which 242 were authorized for full publication. AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI filed 264 items in January, of which 151 were

cleared. The censor, therefore, banned—fully or partially in both newspapers—some 36 percent of the material presented. [passage omitted]

Responding to the Betzelem report, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman said censorship follows the standards stipulated by law—namely, the state of emergency defense regulations—and applies its authority while considering freedom of speech. "The censor does not approve items that contain a call or encouragement for civil disobedience; opposition to law and order; when there is a reasonable suspicion they could incite or support terrorist activity that could disrupt the public order; and, naturally, items on military issues whose publication could cause real damage to national security."

The IDF spokesman replied in the negative to a question on whether there is an order or policy that says the East Jerusalem press only may publish reports on the intifadah picked up from Israeli radio or television. Another question asked of the spokesman was: Are there cases where an item is authorized for publication in one newspaper and banned in another? The IDF spokesman replied: "Generally, no. As far as censorship is concerned, such cases are accidental irregularities, some of which result from differences in phrasing of the different newspapers, different filing circumstances, or human

error. In any event, the censor considers appeals from the paper's editors both orally and in writing." [passage omitted]

IDF Kills 5 'Terrorists' in Security Zone

*TA0803085890 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 8 Mar 90*

[Text] Five terrorists were killed early this morning during a clash with an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol in the southern Lebanese security zone. There were no Israeli casualties. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports:

The clash took place near the al-Shumariyah pass in the eastern sector of the security zone. An IDF patrol encountered a terrorist squad making its way toward the security zone. The troops opened fire and killed five terrorists. It remains unclear whether the terrorists intended to infiltrate the security zone to perpetrate an attack there, or carry out a terrorist operation inside Israel. The incident took place at a site hundreds of Lebanese residents traverse daily on their way to and from northern Lebanon.

Several incidents have occurred at the al-Shumariyah pass recently, mainly involving South Lebanese Army soldiers. Terrorists also have placed explosive charges at the pass to disrupt the movements of Lebanese civilians.

King Husayn on Jewish Emigration, Mitterrand Talks*JN0703215090 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has said Jewish emigration presents a real danger not only to Jordan, but to the depth of the Arab homeland. He said: We are not opposed to human rights. We demand, however, the preservation of the Palestinian people's rights on their national soil and that the problems of a batch of Jewish immigrants not be solved at the expense of the Palestinians.

In an interview broadcast by Radio Orient in Paris today, His Majesty King Husayn described the results of his talks with His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand, president of the French Republic, as positive and satisfactory. He said: The meeting with President Mitterrand was an opportunity to discuss bilateral and regional issues, including the Palestine question, Lebanon, and the no war, no peace status between Iraq and Iran.

Answering a question, His Majesty King Husayn affirmed that Jordan, with God's help, will defend itself and determine its own destiny through the efforts of all its sons under any circumstances and in any situation. He said: Jordan seeks a permanent, just, and honorable peace.

His majesty added Jordan is facing difficulties at the moment because of its location, proximity to the Palestine question, and its responsibility to help the Palestinian Arab people attain their rights on their national soil.

His Majesty King Husayn said there is a need to convene an Arab summit. It is also necessary, however, to correctly prepare for it. This requires bilateral meetings between the brothers to define a joint position, so as to yield the required results.

Answering a question on the democratic experience in Jordan, His Majesty King Husayn said: We promised to conduct elections, and we have kept our promise. The elections were free and honest. We believe in democracy. The wheel is moving forward, and we shall achieve a great deal in the future, God willing.

His majesty said: The focus now and in the near future is on organizing our life based on respect for the Constitution, while establishing liberties for political groups. There is the national charter, which we are preparing to finalize and formulate by calling the different political schools of thought and trends in our Jordanian family to a dialogue to finalize this Constitution, which then will be submitted to the people for their opinion.

Amnesty International Leader Meets With Badran*JN0603193590 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 6 Mar 90*

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received at his office at noon today Amnesty International Secretary General Ian Martin, who is currently visiting Jordan. During the meeting Mr. Martin praised developments in Jordan following the democratic march, including the support of public liberties in their broadest sense, something that has reflected positively not only on Jordan, but also throughout the Arab world.

The Amnesty International secretary general also expressed his satisfaction at the good treatment and humanitarian considerations he witnessed at the reform and rehabilitation centers in the Kingdom after observing efforts to rehabilitate the inmates to enable them to return to their families and to society.

For his part, the prime minister affirmed that Jordan highly appreciates the efforts of Amnesty International, which is dedicated to relieving the sufferings of human beings wherever they may be, or whatever ideas they might hold. He stated that Jordan, in proceeding with the democratic march, returning to parliamentary life according to the Constitution, launching public liberties, ending martial law, entrenching the independence of the judiciary, and releasing political detainees, has taken the first step down the path of responsible democracy which Jordan believes is the way to improve political, economic, and social spheres.

The prime minister also clarified to Mr. Martin that there are no political prisoners, and that what some claim in that regard pertains to prisoners convicted for crimes that do not have a political character. Some of them conducted explosions that killed other innocent people. It was not possible to consider that the motive of such a person who carries out such an act stems from freedom of thought.

The meeting was attended by the Amnesty International secretary general's delegation and Mr. Haydar Mahmud, political adviser at the Prime Ministry.

Meets Crown Prince*JN0803072690 Amman Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at his office the secretary general of Amnesty International, Mr. Ian Martin, and his accompanying delegation today. During the meeting, his highness told Mr. Martin that Jordan is keen on boosting the democratic process and protecting public liberties and human rights. Mr. Martin briefed his highness on his meetings with Jordanian officials and his observations of the government efforts to maintain public liberty.

The interior minister earlier met the Amnesty International delegation. The delegation expressed satisfaction

of the democratic situation in the country which shows respect to the basic human rights.

Indian Parliamentary Delegation Departs 7 Mar

JN0803073090 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Mr. Rabi Ray, speaker of the Indian Lower House of Parliament, and the accompanying delegation, left Amman tonight after a five-day visit to Jordan, during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the Senate president, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and other officials. The delegation also visited a number of economic and development projects, as well as tourist and historical sites.

The Indian delegation was seen off at Queen Alia International Airport by House Speaker Sulayman 'Arar, some deputies, the Parliament secretary general, and the Indian ambassador in Amman.

University Students Protest Jewish Emigration

JN0703214690 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1430 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Amman, 7 Mar (PETRA)—A procession was organized at the Jordan University campus today in support of the Palestinian people's blessed intifadah

against Israeli occupation. The marchers denounced Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine, condemned the plot of the alternative homeland, and called for adherence to Islam to confront the dangers threatening the nation.

Source Warns Against Exaggerating Israeli Threat

TA0703145890 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
6 Mar 90 pp 1, 11

[“Exclusive” to AL-QUDS correspondent]

[Excerpt] Amman—A responsible Jordanian source has warned of the danger of exaggeration in inflating the Israeli threats against Jordan regarding the call for establishing an “alternative homeland” for the Palestinian people. He criticized the PLO's stance toward Moscow regarding the immigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories.

The source, who asked to remain anonymous, said “blowing the Israeli threats out of proportion with the aim of obtaining Arab support and assistance will have a negative effect on the Jordanian economy and on investment in particular. It also will harm internal stability.”

The source explained a sense of danger stemming from exaggerating the possibility Israel might destabilize the situation in Jordan will “harm the investment climate and cause the flight of capital abroad.” [passage omitted]

RJO Conditions for Hostages' Release Reported

NC0703174090 Paris AFP in English 1734 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Beirut, March 7 (AFP)—The pro-Iranian Revolutionary Justice Organization (RJO) said here Wednesday that it would not release its two U.S. hostages unless the group's demands were met. An RJO statement, accompanied by a photograph of hostage Joseph James Cicippio, also warned against what it called an "imminent U.S. military operation" to free the hostages.

The group had said last August that it would kill the 58-year-old accountant unless Israel freed a fundamentalist leader, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd. But it later suspended the death threat. Israel has offered to exchange Shaykh 'Ubayd, whom its agents seized July 28 in south Lebanon, and other Shiite prisoners in exchange for Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon and the hostages.

The statement from the RJO, which also holds Edward Austin Tracey, a writer and book salesman, came amid mounting calls for the release of the 17 Western hostages in Lebanon, mostly believed to be held by pro-Iranian militants.

Iran's President Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said earlier Wednesday that the hostages issue was "moving toward a solution."

'Awn Reportedly Agrees to Dialogue With Al-Hirawi

NC0703182890 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] A QATARI NEWS AGENCY [QNA] correspondent in Beirut has cited Western diplomatic sources as saying that French ambassador to Lebanon Rene Ala has persuaded General 'Awn to hold a dialogue with al-Hirawi through France. These sources said that to enter this dialogue, 'Awn stipulated that it remain out of the limelight until some agreement is reached on certain positions. These include a principled agreement on amending three articles in the al-Ta'if accord and al-Hirawi's accepting the expansion of the current Lebanese Government to include three new ministers.

Quoting the same sources, QNA said that Gen. 'Awn has asked the French ambassador to convey his request for a large amount of aid for East Beirut. The sources said that Ambassador Ala told Patriarch Sfayr that the French proposal is necessary to make positive progress between Gen. 'Awn and the Lebanese legitimate government.

'Awn Comments on Six-Point Plan, LF Media

NC0703164890 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified
Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] While the Mediation and Security Committee's work is proceeding very slowly in the eastern area, people arriving from that area have expressed fear that the security situation could flare up again. They said that the two conflicting parties are reinforcing their positions

and barricades that are far from the main roads, especially in al-Ashrfiyah, Furn al-Shubbak, al-'Adliyah, and al-Dawrah to upper Kasrawan.

Meanwhile, both parties have continued to declare their conflicting stands: Michel 'Awn said today that the six-point agreement needs no interpretation. He said: The Army's place is not where it is now. We have been compelled to put it there to confront an abnormal situation. He added: When this emergency situation is completely and reassuringly dealt with, the Army will return to where it should be.

Criticizing the Lebanese Forces [LF] media, General 'Awn told his visitors: At a time when efforts are being devoted to crystallize a radical peaceful solution that will remedy the roots of the problem, the Lebanese Forces media are cheaply exploiting matters and interpreting things as they like.

The so-called Ja'ja' [as heard] has said that abolishing the Lebanese Forces is out of the question and unacceptable because they are an Army and not a militia or a gang.

Al-Husayni on Al-Ta'if Agreement Amendment

NC0703161890 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified
Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni has stated that the al-Ta'if agreement is not a divine revelation. He added that the significance of this agreement is that it has produced a formula that can be amended. However, this can only be done democratically. This can be achieved only after new parliamentary elections because the current chamber cannot amend it, he said.

Amal, Hizballah Clashes Reported in Southern Suburb

NC0703151490 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Clashes between Amal and Hizballah armed groups have been taking place in the al-Ghubayrah and al-Shiyah areas [of the Southern Suburb] for some time. Security sources said that rockets and light- and medium-caliber machine gun fire are heard there and in surrounding neighborhoods.

Syrian Forces Contain Clashes

NC0703183890 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] The Syrian Arab forces this evening contained the clashes between Amal Movement and Hizballah gunmen in al-Shiyah, Mu'awwad, al-Musharrafiyah, al-Ghubayrah, the airport circle, and Farhat street in the Southern Suburb. Security sources reported that Samir 'Akar was wounded and taken to the American University hospital. Sources from the two warring parties emphasized that these clashes ceased at approximately 1700 today, an hour after they erupted.

Israeli Mock Raids Over E. Sidon Reported

NC0803105290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Ra's al-Jabal area came under heavy-caliber machinegun fire from opposing positions of the 'Awn henchmen a short while ago.

Meanwhile, Israeli warplanes carried out mock raids over the East Sidon area at about 1100 today, drawing anti-aircraft fire. Earlier, Israeli aircraft flew over the coastal and mountain areas.

AFP: 2 Palestinians Killed in South Lebanon

NC0703203090 Paris AFP in English 2013 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, March 7 (AFP)—A masked assailant Wednesday shot dead two members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) in a Palestinian refugee camp near this southern Lebanon port city, the PFLP said.

A military official and another PFLP member were in a shop at the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp when they were shot at point-blank range, the group said.

The assailant managed to escape.

The PFLP is one of the main components of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has its Lebanon headquarters at the crowded 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp.

Resistance Fighters, Lahd Militia Clash in South

NC0803110290 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Security sources have reported that fighting has been taking place since early morning between Lebanese resistance fighters and agent Lahd militiamen in the Zumarayya area, north of Hasbayya, in the eastern sector. Tanks are being used in the fighting. Eyewitnesses said that two armored militia vehicles were put out of action during the clashes.

The same sources have said that five resistance fighters were martyred last night during a battle with Israeli forces.

Al-Huss Makes Statement Upon Return From Morocco

NC0803090590 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, and Minister Dallul returned to Beirut from Morocco last night after a stopover at Damascus airport. The delegation was received at Damascus airport by Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar, Information Minister Muhammad Sal-man, and a number of other Syrian officials.

In a statement he made upon his arrival in Beirut at 2300 yesterday, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss said: Our tour to the member states of the tripartite Arab committee was very positive and useful. During this tour we met with the leaders of these fraternal states. First we met with King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques; Algerian President Chadli Bend-jedid; and King Hassan II of Morocco. The meetings provided an opportunity to discuss developments in the Lebanese situation since the national accord document was issued. The discussion also dealt with the Lebanese Government's plan of action in the coming stage and the role which the tripartite committee can play in supporting the reconciliation and peace march which began in al-Ta'if and in assisting legitimacy to impose its authority over all the Lebanese territory, whether by ending the serious partitionist phenomenon in the eastern area or by working to end the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory in the south.

It was agreed to continue the contacts with the tripartite committee to discuss the ideas that will be raised during the contacts which the committee is expected to hold after consultations the committee members intend to hold among themselves in light of the results of our tour.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: The assistance required to reconstruct Lebanon and to repair the damage caused by the events were naturally among the subjects which we discussed with the leaders of the three fraternal states. We perceived a genuine desire among all the leaders to assist Lebanon directly or through requested assistance to Lebanon from Arab and international development aid programs. We hope that the contacts which we will continue with the pertinent officials in the near future will produce tangible results in this regard.

Prime Minister al-Huss concluded: We should mention with thanks that fraternal Algeria has decided to extend urgent aid to the Lebanese Army in the form of some necessary military equipment. The talks also dealt with the possibility of creating some kind of a mechanism to regulate the relations with the Arab sources of reconstruction and development aid with a view to maximizing the benefits for development and reconstruction, which demand material resources far beyond Lebanon's capabilities.

Hizballah Radio Criticizes U.S. Policy

NC0303095590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 3 Mar 90

[Political commentary]

[Text] Washington shamelessly continues to declare and affirm its support for the legitimate Lebanese Government under Ilyas al-Hirawi. It continues to urge Michel 'Awn to step down, holding him responsible for the destruction and devastation in the eastern area. Washington shamelessly continues to reiterate that the al-Ta'if accord constitutes a good basis for solving the Lebanese problem. Washington unabashedly addresses itself to the

new government, stressing and demonstrating its support with \$250,000 in aid. It looks as though it is a payment for blood money. Anyone accusing Washington of being behind these events would forgive the U.S. its sins when he hears about the \$250,000. This is the amount being paid to ease the suffering of those forced out of their homes by U.S. shells and whose homes were destroyed by U.S. plots and stooges. Washington is now seeking to wash its hands of events taking place and absolve itself of the responsibility for the crisis.

When the United States withdrew its embassy staff from Beirut, it tried to suggest to everyone that the situation in Lebanon is hopeless, that it was no longer capable of doing anything for Lebanon, and that it despaired of any possible solution. When Washington left the issue to the Arabs, specifically the Arab tripartite committee, it wanted to tell everyone that it does not and will not take responsibility or play a role, and that if anyone wants to do something for Lebanon, he has only to cooperate with this committee. Thus, the committee's failure will not be borne by Washington.

Washington, whose message to al-Hirawi contained wishes and prayers, is trying to forget that it holds most cards in the crisis and that the stooges who are fanning the flames are its agents. Who would believe that 'Awn can rebel against U.S. policy? Are not the arms, means, and plans he is using and the resources he is pooling U.S. resources placed at his disposal in two destructive wars? A war that he called the liberation war and the other the unification war to unify the political decisionmaking and rifles in the eastern area?

Why does Washington always want to play the role of a savior, prescriber of medicine, and seeker of a solution, at a time when it fosters all elements of the crisis? Washington is held completely responsible for the Middle East problem and, consequently, for involving Lebanon in this problem. There are no causes for this 15-year old war other than the U.S. Satanic scheme that former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger initiated. Since that time, this small homeland has not known tranquility, truce, or peace. Washington's crime in Lebanon and the region is that it sees no interests of any party before that of the Zionist entity. Washington is ready to take any risk, destroy anything, remap borders, and partition the region anew—including Lebanon—if that would lead to the consecration of the Zionist security and hegemony. Washington, which is committing the crime of the age in settling alien Jews at the expense of the real owners of the land, has no objection to peoples and communities being displaced or being involved in internecine fighting, as long as this displacement and fighting eventually leads to fragmenting the region and weakening all forces and roles, except the Zionist force and role.

This crime led to the Islamic-Christian fighting and sectarian wars: Muslims against Muslims and Christians against Christians. When we level accusations at Washington, we are not exonerating ourselves, particularly

since we have become polluted with the U.S. approach to politics and in confronting events. Scorching the land for cheap goals is what we have learned from the events that have taken place in Lebanon. Using small disputes to destroy major issues is what Washington has meant to our fabricated wars. When we regain our senses and become rational, we will find that Washington will flout all slogans and demands and work for a solution that would take no notice of the interests of communities as much as the goals of the U.S. policy and Western interests in Lebanon and the region.

The al-Ta'if accord, which Washington is now trampling but which it fostered not too long ago, proves what we maintain. The al-Ta'if accord bypassed all rounds of fighting, conflicts, sacrifices, and slogans. It drew a picture of a future Lebanon very similar to the 1943 formula, as if nothing has happened, as if no fighting has occurred over that formula, and as if the Lebanese blazing fire was not for internal goals and causes, but for goals and causes that Washington should be asked about.

Italian Daily Interviews Samir Ja'ja'

*PM0703141890 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian
6 Mar 90 p 13*

[Interview with Lebanese Forces leader Samir Ja'ja' by Fabio Scuto in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] Beirut—"I did my utmost to avert this war. This fratricidal conflict was inconceivable to me, too, but General 'Awn forced us to defend our political existence. It is terrible to see Lebanon's Christians fighting each other without quarter, especially since in recent years the Lebanon free of foreign occupation was entirely confined to this small region."

Samir Ja'ja'—"the doctor" to all Lebanese, on account of his medical studies as a young man—spoke calmly, underlining remarks that he considered important with broad gestures of his left hand. [passage omitted]

[Scuto] What are the Lebanese Forces demanding in order to end this conflict between Christian alignments? Are you prepared to come to an agreement?

[Ja'ja'] We have no preconceptions about political dialogue and no rigidities: Everything can be discussed, apart from the existence of the "Lebanese Forces," which have been the Lebanese Christians' resistance for the past 15 years, and political freedoms and freedom of expression—in other words, political pluralism.

Without a political solution, it is impossible to believe that the cease-fire can suffice to normalize the situation. The two must go hand in hand. I keenly hope that a compromise solution can be reached.

[Scuto] Once this "war" is ended, there will still be the unresolved problem of the whole of the country's Muslim-controlled western region.

[Ja'ja'] I am convinced that we must negotiate with the Muslims: There is no doubt about it. The war against them cannot lead to any solution. So we should engage in dialogue, more dialogue, and still more dialogue. I believe that now, much more than before, all the Lebanese factions have reached the conclusion that only a political formula based on coexistence can end this crisis. I hope that in the near future this military conflict with the western region will end and that the Muslims too will realize that they must negotiate to reach a solution.

[Scuto] Are the six points established in al-Ta'if with the Arab League's mediation still valid?

[Ja'ja'] There are points in the al-Ta'if agreement that are valid, others that are not at all valid, and others again that must be discussed. A political commitment to achieving a dialogue is needed.

[Scuto] The Lebanese Forces drew up an institutional reform plan based on federalism. Is this plan still valid?

[Ja'ja'] It is our future blueprint. I believe that the Lebanese crisis cannot be resolved without institutional reform. This entire war has not been waged just for the sake of minor changes in our political system. The solution can only result from a reform of the institutions, which we believe must be based on federalism and autonomy—like Italy's regional autonomy, for instance, or like Switzerland or the United States.

[Scuto] Fifteen years of war have brought the country to its knees and provided scope for people to derive personal benefit from the conflict. What are your plans for reconstruction?

[Ja'ja'] The thing that I believe will be easiest is in fact economic recovery: Our system proved very efficient in past years. If there is a certain degree of political stability

it will constitute an excellent starting point. Furthermore many countries have offered their support for launching reconstruction.

[Scuto] Europe intends to help Lebanon by sending butter and canned meat. Could it not instead provide aid directed more toward helping youngsters who have known nothing but war and to halt this mass emigration?

[Ja'ja'] True, this war has caused very large-scale emigration—and in particular a brain drain—from Lebanon. But we certainly cannot try to stop those seeking to escape the war from leaving the country. We are losing all this human potential...

[Scuto] Do you see a role for the EEC in the solution of the Lebanese crisis?

[Ja'ja'] The EC can act in two directions. First, by exerting political pressure for Syria to withdraw from Western Lebanon and, second, by helping us technologically to rebuild the country's economic structures. Following the Syrian Army's withdrawal we Lebanese will try to find a formula for political coexistence and then we will try to restore the authority of the state and parliament at last.

Villagers Demand Expulsion of U.S. National

NC0803084990 (*Clandestine*) *Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon* 0630 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] The inhabitants of Rashayya al-Fukhkhār and al-Habbariyah villages have asked the United Nations, the international community, and the Lebanese authorities to expel U.S. national (William Robinson), who lives in the school building in Rashayya al-Fukhkhār village in the so-called occupied security belt. According to reports, the two villages' inhabitants accuse Robinson of working to set up Jewish settlements to accommodate the new Jewish immigrants.

Al-Asad To Discuss Hostage Crisis in Tehran

JN0803080590 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU'
in Arabic 8 Mar 90 pp 1, 23

["Exclusive"]

[Excerpt] Damascus—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will visit Iran in the next two weeks for talks with Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The talks will center on ending the crisis of foreign hostages in Lebanon. The two presidents will also discuss the promotion of relations between the two countries and ways to restore lasting and comprehensive peace between Iraq and Iran on the basis of Security Council Resolution 598. AKHBAR AL-USBU' can affirm that the hostage crisis will be ended during the visit, which comes as a continuation of the secret talks between Tehran and Washington on efforts to free the hostages—something confirmed by the semi-official Iranian news media. [passage omitted]

Talas Speaks on Revolution, 'Strategic Parity'

JN0703172090 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1430 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Address by General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, on the 27th anniversary of the 8 March revolution, carried within the Syrian Armed Forces program "The Protectors of the Homeland"; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] When the Iraq-Iran war ended, Iraq's tyrant Saddam Husayn supplied the Zionized cliques in Lebanon with arms. Instead of turning to the real enemy, Israel, and instead of avenging the attack on the Tammuz Reactor destroyed by the Zionists, Saddam Husayn supplied 'Awn and Ja'ja' with arms. He completely forgot the Arab-Zionist conflict. He knows that 'Awn and Ja'ja' stopped their war on the advice of Lubrani, coordinator of the Israeli occupation [in Lebanon]. Everybody should know that the war stopped in East Beirut, not on the advice of the pope and Bishop Sfayr, but upon the advice of Israeli coordinator Lubrani. 'Awn and Ja'ja' receive their weapons from Iraq's tyrant Saddam Husayn, who knows that 'Awn and Ja'ja' are two small Israeli agents.

I would like to say something else in these circumstances of launching Arab regional groupings. What pains the Ba'thist struggler, the Arab struggler, and every struggler in this world is that the foundation statements and other statements issued by these groupings do not contain one word on the Arab-Zionist conflict. President al-Asad alone considers the basic conflict between the Arab nation and Zionism the pivot of the Arab struggle. The foundation statements of the three Arab groupings that were established in the arena during the past two years [as heard] contain nothing on the Arab-Zionist conflict. Al-Asad alone has an outlook for the future; that is, the conflict between the Arab nation and Zionism is over existence, not borders.

Saddam Husayn delivered a speech in Amman the other day in which he said we should move to fight the Iranians on the Eastern flank. This means he wants the Arab nation to wage another war with Iran—a war in which the Arab nation has no interest. With due respect to the Arab groupings and with our support for every Arab grouping, no word, however, was mentioned on the Arab-Zionist conflict—neither in the recent Amman meeting among the leaders of four countries nor in the other groupings. No Arab grouping has mentioned anything about the Arab-Israeli conflict. And this is a historical fact. Only al-Asad, who has a pure Arab conscience, said: Our basic conflict is the conflict with the Zionist enemy. Had it not been for Hafiz al-Asad, Greater Israel would have been established from the Nile to the Euphrates. And the army of Hafiz al-Asad, not the Iraqi or the Jordanian Army, is the one who prevented Israel from occupying the sources of oil. Everybody knows that when the issue concerns Israel the Iraqi Army would say: We have no orders. However, when the issue is massacring Muslims the Iraqi Army has orders.

On this occasion, we send our heartfelt greetings to the leader of the nation, Hafiz al-Asad, who has an outlook for the future, who follows a genuine pan-Arab course, who has not moved and will not move an inch away from this course, who follows a firm principle, and who has a comprehensive future outlook.

Al-Asad let our comrades-in-struggle in the PLO play their game until the end. He did not stand against them. He said: Let them go and try their luck with their peace offensive, as they called the initiative proposed by the PLO. He did not stand in the face of this initiative at all. However, he said: The Palestinian brothers will realize their mistake after trying this for themselves.

President al-Asad had an outlook for the future. Therefore, he let the Palestinians go all the way with Israel. They made concessions that the staunch Zionists never dreamt of. When the Palestinian side presented all its concessions the Jews closed the door in their face. Hence, Hafiz al-Asad's view was that the Zionists can only be addressed and negotiated with through Arab solidarity. However, with the Arabs fragmented and in the absence of Arab solidarity, there will be no room for speaking because the Zionists only understand the language of force. In light of this, al-Asad proposed strategic parity between Syria and the Zionist enemy as a basic duty for our Armed Forces, because this is the only method understood by world Zionism and even America. Nobody respects the weak; everybody respects the strong. Out of this, President al-Asad is strengthening our Armed Forces so that they can defend the masses' achievements and regain the stolen rights.

On this occasion, I call on our comrades in the Armed Forces to conduct further training and to take good care of the weapons given to them by their people so that we will always be ready to implement the mission ordered by the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

God's peace be upon you, and many happy returns.

Al-Asad To Address Revolution Anniversary Rally

JN0703213290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad will deliver a speech tomorrow on the 27th anniversary of the glorious 8 March revolution and the convening of the fifth General Congress of the Revolution Youth Federation in which he will speak about the march of the revolution during the past years, its future direction, and the most important local, Arab, and international topical affairs.

The Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has called for attending a major central rally to be held on the 27th anniversary of the glorious 8 March revolution at 1100 [0900 GMT] tomorrow, Thursday, at al-Fayha' Palace in Damascus.

The SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY correspondent has learned that this major national and pan-Arab rally will be attended by comrades, members of the Ba'th Party National and Regional Command, members of the Central Command of the National Progressive Front, ministers, heads of the executive bureaus of the popular organizations and trade unions, and a large number of citizens.

Lebanon's Al-Hirawi Arrives 'Suddenly'

JN0803063490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0600 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] A reliable source in Beirut has said that Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi arrived suddenly in Damascus last night from Morocco, the last of the Arab tripartite committee countries he is visiting on his recent tour, which has also taken him to Saudi Arabia and Algeria.

Returns Home

JN0803074290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0715 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi and his accompanying delegation last night returned to Beirut following a tour that took him to Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and Morocco.

The Voice of the Mountain radio has cited Prime Minister Salim al-Huss as saying that the tour was useful and the talks held during the tour have achieved very positive results.

Opposition Leaders Announce New 'National Front'

JN0703130890 Paris AL-YAWM AL-SABI'
in Arabic 5 Mar 90 pp 12-14

[Interview with 'Adnan Sa'd-al-Din, secretary general of the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria and member of the Political Bureau of the National Front for the Salvation of Syria, in Paris; date not given]

[Text] A group of Syrian political parties and politicians announced at a news conference at the Grand Hotel in Paris on 23 February the establishment of the National Front for the Salvation of Syria [al-Jabhah al-Wataniyah li Inqadh Suriya].

The news conference was attended by the representatives of four Syrian parties: Shibli al-Aysami and Muhammad 'Umar Burhan for the Ba'th Party; 'Adnan Sa'd-al-Din and Muhammad Hasnawi for the Muslim Brotherhood; Muhammad al-Jarrah for the Socialist Union Party; and former Syrian President Amin al-Hafiz, former ministers Mustafa Hamdun and Ahmad Abu-Salih, and ex-Army Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hawwash for the independents.

During the news conference, the representatives distributed the front's charter, read out a political statement outlining the front's objectives, and answered questions put by journalists.

AL-YAWM AL-SABI' met with 'Adnan Sa'd-al-Din, secretary general of the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria and member of the Political Bureau of the new opposition front, and conducted the following interview:

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] You announced in Paris a few days ago the establishment of the National Front for the Salvation of Syria. What is the difference between this front and the National Alliance for the Liberation of Syria, which existed previously?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Actually, we have been trying for some time to expand the opposition in Syria by persuading various factions to join our ranks. So, the front is an improvement on the alliance. The objectives do not differ. We call for change in Syria and for restoring Syria's old role on the path of building unity and progress and achieving the advancement of the Syrian people in particular and the Arab people in general.

So, the difference is only in the formula. The front's charter makes room for those elements that had reservations about the alliance. The opposition has succeeded in persuading these elements to join the opposition under the new formula and framework. Thus, we can say that the national front is the national alliance under a new formula, or is an expansion of the alliance within the opposition.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Is the new front just an expansion of the alliance, or does it also present new methods of action?

[Sa'd-al-Din] It is expansion and an improvement on the charter. The front is also examining new methods to mobilize the Syrian people. The front has improved on the topics which caused controversy under the alliance. It is mobilizing all factions and classes of the Syrian people for the purpose of provoking action and an awakening inside the country so that the regime would no longer be able to dominate the people, suppress their freedom, and silence their voice.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] In such an organization, are you thinking of armed struggle or political and popular action?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Popular, political, and informational action will be the basis of struggle, because armed struggle could cause much controversy on whether it is legal or illegal, terroristic or nonterroristic. We have a more potent weapon than armed struggle; it is the participation of all the people in rejecting the regime so that Syria would resume its disrupted role.

Our contact with the people has established that they are more ready to express themselves now after the deprivation that has reached the level of starvation and the persecution that has reached a point at which it is no longer possible to remain silent. Therefore, I repeat and say that what is more potent than armed struggle is general mobilization of the people, which begins with strikes, leaflets, outright rejection, and enlightened opposition, and ends with civil disobedience.

When this phase of popular action is reached, we hope that there would be cooperation from within the government authorities. For there are people in the government who share the feelings of the people. They are aware of the government's persecution of all sections of the population, including 'Alawites. The beneficiaries are a small despotic group, which controls the Syrian economy and political and social life in general.

Many soldiers and even intelligence men and members of the ruling party admit the state of deterioration, disintegration, and collapse reached by Syria, where the regime has become an obstacle to progress and, in fact, a den of conspiracy against everything that is Arab and patriotic! All these people in the government are aware of all these things. They are awaiting the hour when they would be given the opportunity to rise against the government and join the people at the right moment. We think that the right moment is not far away.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Here abroad there is the National Front for the Salvation of Syria, and inside Syria there is the Democratic Grouping. Is this considered a split in the Syrian national movement, or are there ties between the inside and outside?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Each of these two groupings grew up under similar circumstances and within quite close periods of time, the late seventies and the early eighties. The Democratic Grouping inside includes several groups, and the alliance, before it became a front, welcomed any dialogue without reservations or preconditions. Several years ago, we held a dialogue with the grouping's representatives abroad, and we welcomed cooperation with this grouping to reach a joint formula of understanding with it whether in the form of coordination, unifying of stands, or establishing a front that includes all parties. We still welcome dialogue with the Democratic Grouping without any preconditions, and seek cooperation with it for the sake of saving our country. This is

because Syria needs all its sons, parties, and all the zealous people to save it from its bitter suffering.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Can we speak about political differences between your front and the Democratic Grouping inside Syria?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Perhaps the Democratic Grouping takes into consideration special circumstances inside Syria. Perhaps it wants to avoid the tyranny of the regime in Syria. This is because for quarter of a century, there had been no laws, judicial system, or constitution in Syria. Nothing prevents the Syrian regime from perpetrating any crime, whether on the level of the ruling regime or that of the security organs' officers. These are things we know of. Perhaps time will reveal more reasons, because the Syrian regime has begun to speak about an alleged and fabricated openness that it will exploit to achieve its own objectives and to delude the people. The Syrian regime would play a game. It would grant some elements belonging to the Democratic Grouping a little freedom of political action to claim that it has entered the age of democratic openness. Such elements seek to benefit from this desire to make gains. This must not deceive anyone. This delusion must also be exposed to the Syrian and Arab peoples.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Reports from Syria say that the ruling party's future congress might approve a policy of reforms on the political and economic levels, but you are saying that we must not be deceived by this. Is this stand enough to address the Syrian people?

[Sa'd-al-Din] I say clearly, through experience and setbacks and based on the regime's deviation, sadism, and collaboration with the enemies of the nation, I do not trust this regime or its promises. This has been proved by experience. However, this should not prevent us from saying: Let us wait to see how serious these stands are, and then we can judge them after they have been implemented. If the implementation of such stands produces true relaxation and freedom for the people and gives real solutions to the economic crisis, then this will be a great gain to the Syrian people. However, I do not trust any of this regime's promises. We must not at all trust a regime that destroys a city because it opposes it.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] But is not the front planning, in addition to the declared charter, to present a program defining the demands that should be met at this stage so that it can be the criteria for measuring the seriousness of the regime, and so that this program becomes a tangible tool for the masses' demands?

[Sa'd-al-Din] This is a right demand, and without doing so, the opposition will become negligent. However, the front's charter gave answers to all these questions. The front calls for the abolition of martial law in Syria that has been continuing for 27 years, for granting political freedoms to all citizens without discrimination, for taking to account all those who shed the people's blood and destroyed cities, for rectifying the economic situation, for retrieving the funds that have been smuggled

outside the homeland, and for allowing the deported scientific capabilities to return to the homeland because it is in a dire need of them. The front also calls for achieving social justice, liberating the citizen from deprivation and starvation, and for restoring the independence and freedom of the judiciary. The front wants the army to be the people's army that protects the homeland and the border, and not an army that represses the people. The front wants Syria to restore its role in achieving solidarity with the Arab brothers on the road of the aspired unity. The front wants the Syrian people to restore their cultural role in showing interest in human affairs, in fighting injustice against peoples, and in resisting racial discrimination.

Since its establishment, Syria was one of the leading countries that guaranteed social security for every citizen, applied compulsory education and compulsory military service, conducted free elections, showed interest in the issues of the peoples of the world, and cooperated with those peoples to achieve their objectives of liberation. All this is included in the program of the National Front for the Salvation of Syria. The front's charter and political statement also include several of these principles.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Do you believe there is need for cooperation with forces in the government, the administration, and state bodies in Syria to bring about change? In other words, can the regime in Syria be changed without cooperation with such forces?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Such cooperation is possible and even necessary, because not everyone in authority can be condemned. Many people in the authorities, as well as opponents themselves, suffer from the injustice of the regime and they also complain bitterly. The regime has placed these citizens by in a narrow corner. We are ready to cooperate with them to make a joint effort to rid the homeland of this suffering. I consider this to be natural, and we have decided it in our minds.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] The authority has been punishing and dismissing many employees from their posts in companies and departments for two years on charges of corruption and for the sake of reform. Do you not view these measures as positive?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Some economists say that the state can cope with 100 thieves but not with 100,000. Even if the state is one of the richest in the world, it will collapse. The number of those who commit crimes of embezzlement in Syria has greatly increased. The authority is settling scores with a very small number of these thieves to throw dust in the eyes, warn the masses, and appear to be pursuing exploiters and opportunists. But the real thieves, who have billions of pounds, are safe in their posts and houses. Has not the law on graft noticed the excessive riches of the major symbols of the authority, their relatives, and their sons? They cannot mislead any one. The major thieves are making these moves to throw

dust in the eyes and mislead the masses who have approached the brink of explosion.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] From time to time, we hear talk about a conflict among rivals within the Syrian authorities. How do you assess this?

[Sa'd-al-Din] Part of this conflict is real and the other is false. The conflict among influential forces is real, but it is a conflict over gains and profits. The conflict is on two levels: First, among senior officials who have committed major crimes against the Syrian people. These officials cannot be relied on and nothing positive can be expected from them. Second, there is the conflict being waged by innocent employees of the state. These people, who see the corruption on one hand and know the people's starvation on the other, believe that their country—which was a haven for Arabs and nationalists—has turned into a place of conspiracy against the Arabs in general and the Palestinians, the Iraqis, and the Lebanese in particular. We expect this kind of conflict to produce positive results, because it represents the good side that rejects deviation. It is also represented in a large sector of the Syrian people, including some of the 'Alawites, who feel more than others that the regime is tampering with their future.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] A short time ago, the government declared the cancellation of martial law in Syria. Do not you view this as a step forward?

[Sa'd-al-Din] By announcing the cancellation of martial law, the regime has consolidated it further, because it exempted the area of "state security". Martial law is usually imposed to protect state security and act against political activity. Only that part of martial law that deals with the customs area was canceled. Why did the authority chose the customs area? It was chosen because Syria has been looted and there is no more to be looted. This cancellation may be designed to protect the smugglers and to enable them to steal more and more in the absence of martial law. This kind of openness claimed by the regime arouses pity and ridicule at the same time.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] There are a large number of Syrian expatriates abroad. One notices, however, that neither the front, nor any of the parties in it are doing anything to contact these expatriates to organize them.

[Sa'd-al-Din] The time has come to dot the i's on this issue. We have contacted large groups of Syrians abroad, whether in Europe or in Arab countries. Some 2 million Syrians have left Syria. I can say with confidence that the opposition movement includes the majority of these Syrians—if not all. It includes the overwhelming majority of these Syrians. We constantly cooperate with them, whether through our party organization, or through other party organizations.

These Syrians have an excuse, which we accept. The excuse is that they do not wish to state their views explicitly and reveal their names as this places their families and relatives in great danger, as was the case for

many others before them. They tell us: We support you all the way but there is no interest in proclaiming the names of all those who support you. I hope the day will come—and I am sure it is not far off—when the people will realize that the opposition includes the majority of Syrians abroad.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] You talk a lot about the Syrian regime's isolation while we see that the regime enjoys Arab political support. How do you explain this?

[Sa'd-al-Din] There are two aspects to this. First, we have discovered that all the Arab officials we have met know more than we do about the Syrian regime's crimes. To avoid embarrassment, I am not going to tell you the names of these officials or their countries. But they avoid public confrontation with this regime for reasons that they explain to those they meet.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Democratic changes are taking place in the Arab region, such as the elections in Jordan and the new democratic approach in Iraq. How do these changes affect the situation in Syria?

[Sa'd-al-Din] There are views that people avoid proclaiming in news statements. Personally, I do not believe in this approach—no matter how much harm it brings. I am satisfied with what is taking place in Jordan. I can only thank the Jordanian Government for its serious and sincere democratic position, a position that has embarrassed despots everywhere. Jordan's course demonstrates political awareness. There are three types of politicians: Those who struggle in the wake of events, those who accommodate themselves to events, and those who are ahead of events. Jordan is of the third type. Although some people have complained that too much freedom was given, others told us that the elections were held in a real atmosphere of freedom. This has embarrassed despots and those who do not want their people even to breathe fresh air.

This state of affairs has completely embarrassed Damascus. Our people in Syria are following closely and with great interest the democratic experience in fraternal Jordan.

King Husayn showed courage when he took this step. His government also showed courage when it adopted the same course. By this step, Jordan has avoided many obstacles, or crises—which some governments prefer because they are afraid of freedom. This is good for Jordan, and I want to express my thanks and appreciation to those who carried it out.

With respect to Iraq, it has announced its intention to implement democratic measures. I hope it will not take too long. President Saddam Husayn has also announced that there will be a new constitution, plurality of parties, and freedom of the press in 1990. We hope this will be expedited. Iraq has explicitly stated that it will follow such a course. Iraq is an important country and we are interested in what takes place there.

What is taking place in Jordan and Iraq has had an impact on Syria. The Syrian Government has started negotiations with some people to give more prominence to parties. There are promises in Syria that political parties will be allowed to reappear, and that new newspapers will be published. Representatives of the Syrian regime have visited neighboring countries such as Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and some Gulf countries and the regime has begun inviting Syrian opposition members to return to Syria. Some well-known but worn-out political figures who are famous for their political hypocrisy, such as 'Abd-Majid al-Tarabulsi, have been given prominence. This person is intended to lead an Islamic movement. There are also some mosque preachers who have been instructed by the regime to conduct some sort of criticism.

Two groups have emerged in Syria now under the supervision of the authorities.

One group is that of the elders of religion who sell themselves to any buyer. They do not represent the conscience of the Syrian people nor the position of the true ulema, who are well-known inside and outside Syria and who are many, thank God.

The other is the political group that has emerged and for which an opportunity was opened in the official National Progressive Front, which represents only itself. All its members combined do not amount to one row of people lined up for prayer in the Umayyad Mosque. They are a form of decoration that the authorities adorn themselves with and hide behind.

This activity in Syria clearly indicates that the authorities in Syria have started to understand very well that change is inevitable and, therefore, they are trying to effect change cautiously and in a very limited way. The clock cannot be turned back, however, and Syria is part of the globe. The winds of change will soon affect it more than anyone else, because it needs change more than anyone else.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] Are there any efforts now to unite the two Islamic currents in Syria?

[Sa'd-al-Din] The two Islamic currents in Syria have never differed over goals, objectives, or principles. Those differences that do exist, however, will not become deep. The two sides are now working on mending the rift and narrowing the dispute. If we cannot reach a formula for uniting ranks very soon, we can take some steps, even if small ones, toward mending the rift so long as the ultimate motives are still the same in each group. One example of this is that we have entered with our brothers into the National Front for the Salvation of Syria. Each of us is now helping the other to build this front. Dialogue and cooperation bring the good news of closing ranks and slowly nearing a solution to the crisis. We belong to one school and organization. We have traveled down one road for over 50 years. Therefore, regardless of

how bitter the disputes are, they will still be trivial in terms of the ultimate objectives that join us and for which we all sacrifice.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] There is a furor in the media, currently being exploited by many Western media organizations, about the Islamic Movement, Hamas, in the occupied territories, setting it at odds with the PLO. And there is another side to this. After the success of the 30 Islamic deputies in Jordan, it has become an issue that these deputies will support Hamas, which will step up the battle against the PLO. As a member of the Islamic current in Syria, how do you see this issue?

[Sa'd al-Din] First, there is the Palestine question, which is greater than Hamas and the PLO. The PLO's value increases in step with the sacrifices and jihad it offers the Palestinian people. Previously, I said some things which I do not feel the need to change now; that is, that the PLO represents the Palestinian people and we should look at it from this perspective and support it in this task. We should not try to shake its position or distance it from the status it occupies, in which it performs a great role that no one else can perform.

As for Hamas, it also expresses the conscience of the people who reject occupation and usurpation of land.

The truth is that if the Zionist movement has baffled the world with its network of contacts, the Palestinians have baffled these people with their patience, steadfastness, and great sacrifices.

One of the great dangers is that there be a split between Hamas and the PLO. Hamas must realize that it cannot be a substitute for the PLO. The PLO must realize also that Hamas carries a prominent banner for these great people. It also expresses, as others do, its conscience in steadfastness and determination to achieve liberty and independence.

Differences of opinion should not spoil relationships, as some believe. However, we do not want this disagreement in viewpoints, whatever its extent, to create a dispute or conflict, because that would serve the interests of the Israeli enemy.

Personally, I have heard cogent words on this issue from brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Palestinian state. He is not against any opinion, whatever the disagreement between him and others. He is not willing to abandon any youth in "Hamas" or in "Fatah". We appreciate his work inside the occupied land to bridge the gap between the youths of "Fatah" and "Hamas". If people knew about his efforts, whether through his calls or statements, they would be quite content.

'Arafat and the PLO act on the basis that the PLO represents the people—all the people—and does not discriminate between one citizen and another. Therefore, I am optimistic. After the great sacrifices they have offered, the youths of Hamas are now beginning to

acquire political experience, and to approach constructive dialogue and cooperation on mutual issues. However, if certain matters are not yet agreed upon, they should be put aside in order for all of us to cooperate on the things that are agreed. I address Hamas, while both of us are on the same front; I address the PLO, who are truthful allies; and I remind everybody to remain in one trench, as we hope they will and as they are in reality. I also ask them to give priority to the major issue and the most noble objective—extricating Palestine from the alien enemy—and to heed other issues as well.

This will not happen, at any rate, at the expense of creeds and ideologies, or at the expense of jihad in the interest of the higher ideals and principles that we have embraced. In fact, our higher ideals and principles mandate this stance for us for the sake of God and in defense of our land and people.

[AL-YAWM AL-SABI'] One last question. This talk we've had—do you consider it to express the position of the "Muslim Brotherhood" or that of the "the National Front for the Salvation of Syria"?

[Sa'd al-Din] Honestly, I do not believe it expresses either. The formation of the front represents a major event in Syria's political life. This is because all movements, who were at daggers drawn at one time, came together after acquiring great awareness, which caused them to brush aside their differences to save the homeland—which is a sanctuary for all, and without which we can serve neither our nation nor our principles.

People are now deeply aware that sticking to their principles means cooperating with others in the public interest.

Being a member of the front's political bureau, I believe I express the ideas of the front and its positions. If some weak points were seen when the front was founded, this is a natural beginning. We are certain, however, that weaknesses will be remedied, that the front will develop stronger formulae and organizations, and will have the ability to attract many other elements. Every action begins modestly and gains strength later. I am confident that the front's action has now reached maturity as regards the awareness of the Syrian people—and it is now the accepted formula that all people rally around. This, however, does not cancel our parties, our activity, or our freedom of action, and is not at the expense of our principles.

I see this long talk, which will be published by your magazine—one of the readable and trustworthy magazines in the Arab world—to be representative of the conscience of the "Muslim Brotherhood," as I have been brought up with them, learned from them, and benefited from their leaders. I owe everything I have to this organization, which I joined at an early age. I am guided by most of their ideas and thoughts, including the idea of a front, which was presented by the late Hasan al-Banna, the founder of this movement.

Afghanistan

8-Hour Kabul Curfew Announced 7 Mar

LD0703221190

[Editorial report] Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto at 1530 GMT on 7 March broadcasts the following announcement:

"Dear residents of Kabul are hereby requested to observe curfew from 2000 to 0600."

Rafi' Introduces New Defense, Interior Ministers

LD0703224490 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] In a series of ceremonies today, Vice President Lieutenant General Muhammad Rafi' introduced Lt. Gen. Muhammad Aslam Watanjar as defense minister and Dr. Raz Muhammad Paktin as minister of internal affairs to the personnel of their ministries.

A BAKHTAR military correspondent reports that during the meetings in these ministries, Lt. Gen., Muhammad Rafi' expressed appreciation for the indefatigable work and activities of these ministers toward the realisations of the national reconciliation policy and the resolutions of the government of the Republic of Afghanistan and of the High Council for the Defense of the Homeland.

In return, the two ministers pledged, on behalf of the leadership of the Defense and Interior Ministries, every kind of self-sacrifice to the High Council for the Defense of the Homeland toward strengthening nationwide peace and security in the homeland and the realisation of the national reconciliation policy.

Keshtmand on Government Coup Commission

LD0703232190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] At a meeting today chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Hakim Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Afghan Council of Ministers, set up a commission to (?assist) the victims of the recent events as soon as possible.

Afghan Television invited Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand for an interview in this respect. May we draw your attention to this interview?

[Begin Keshtmand recording, in Dari] Even though the shameful, bloody coup d'etat begun by a handful of criminal traitors led by Shahnawaz Tanay in collaboration with the criminal Gulbuddin group has been completely foiled and crushed, the consequences of this criminal treacherous action still are apparent. They involve heavy human and material losses to the citizens of Kabul and to government installations.

Over the past 24 hours, the necessary measures have been taken so that government organs and social organizations can render the required material and medical assistance to the victims and their families. In order to assess the damage and for the purpose of extending wide-ranging, necessary, and urgent assistance to these families and esteemed citizens, a government commission, under the chairmanship of a vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, has been set up on the instructions of esteemed Afghan President Najibullah.

The government will take all necessary measures to alleviate and remove the consequences or grave results of the barbarous bombardment of Kabul by the criminal plotters, in addition to extending the necessary urgent assistance to the victims and their families. [end recording]

KUNA Cites Envoy on Fighting Around Kabul

LD0703180890 Kuwait KUNA in English 1550 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] New Delhi, March 7 [KUNA]—Fighting is going on Wednesday between supporters of Defence Minister Shahnawaz Tanay and the government troops on the outskirts of Kabul, but forces loyal to President Najibullah are in complete control of the situation in the war-torn country.

This was stated by Afghanistan Ambassador to India Ahmad Sarwar at a press conference here today. He said the security forces are in full control and Mr. Tanay has escaped from Kabul and taken refuge at Bagram, about 40 km from Kabul.

However, reports from foreign diplomats say that the Afghani president has taken refuge in a Soviet camp as supporters of Mr. Tanay continued to fight. It was also reported that heavy fighting was going on at [words indistinct] of the capital which Tanay forces claim to have captured.

Mr. Sarwar, who is brother-in-law of the President, said he has spoken to Dr. Najibullah twice since yesterday to know about the situation. He said the president was "confident of defeating the mutineers." Giving details of the coup attempt, the ambassador said the rebels supported by Air Force personnel bombed central Kabul, damaging several government buildings, shopping complex and houses. He said several civilians were killed. He claimed the enemies garrison was captured by the loyal troops last night and the situation was immediately brought under control. The ambassador said the presidential palace was not damaged in the rebel attack, but admitted that Kabul airport was closed and communication links are still disrupted.

Mr. Sarwar said that the government troops this morning captured the Defence Ministry palace from where coup attempt was initiated, and captured eight senior general, who were involved in the coup attempt. He held Pakistani secret service responsible for organizing abortive

coup against Dr. Najibullah. The ambassador charged Pakistani Inter-Service Intelligence [ISI], and Hezb-e Eslami leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar "collaborated with Dr. Tanay to overthrow the legitimate government of Najibullah."

Meanwhile, the Afghan mujahidins in India today predicted fall of the Najibullah government very soon. Muhammad Ibrahim, a representative of the mujahidins, told newsmen that offensive by the guerilla [word indistinct] people within the government was mounting against the Najibullah regime. He claimed that Defence Minister Mr. Tanay was safe and had gone in hiding. "Fighting was still continuing and S. Tanay [words indistinct] control of airbase on the outskirts of Kabul," Ibrahim disclosed. He said the defence minister was a sympathiser of the Afghan mujahidins and in fact wanted to help them. The representative said beside Mr. Tanay, many top ranking Afghan generals have established links with the Afghan groups based in Peshawar.

Mr. Ibrahim claimed a number of Afghan cities are now under the control of mujahidin. He also denied a report that Afghan were involved in subversive activities in the Kashmir valley. "There are no basis for such reports," he said.

High Command Says Coup Plotters 'Crushed'

*LD0703182190 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] A statement by the headquarters of the High Command of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan wishes to inform that some members of the Shahnawaz-Gulbuddin group, including Brig. Gen. Muhammad 'Asef Shor, Col. Muhammad Kabir Karwani, and Col. Muhammad Jafar Sarter, who were participants and members of the leading circle of coup plotters, have been crushed, while others were killed or arrested while fleeing.

High Command Calls for Citizens' Return to Work

*LD0703185590 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 7 Mar 90*

["Afghan High Command Statement Requesting People to Report to Work"—headline]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Dear compatriots are hereby informed that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan is in control of the situation throughout the country and that complete security exists in the capital and provinces of the country. The people of the capital, Kabul province, and other provinces of the country can engage in their daily work and activities with full confidence starting tomorrow. All departments, state institutions, social

organizations, private enterprises, businessmen, shopkeepers, and other sectors of trade and people should resume their normal, daily work and activities starting tomorrow.

Schools are closed until 22 March.

President Najibullah Addresses Nation 7 Mar

*LD0703192190 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1630 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Speech by President Najibullah on 7 March; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Dear compatriots, first of all, in these moments in which you have passed one and one-half days in anxiety and pain and have sustained heavy psychological pressure, I would like to assure all my peace-loving compatriots that the vain conspiracy and coup d'etat of Shahnawaz-Gulbuddin, which resulted in the martyrdom and injury of tens of our compatriots, has been resolutely and completely crushed and now no anxiety or concern exists in this respect. I would like once again to express consolation to all the families who have lost their relations or friends as a result of this event.

Today I visited Kabul hospitals, where those wounded in this event have been under treatment. I noticed the profound feeling of hate and indignation in the faces of every one of the wounded and that of their families because of the shocking crime by the foreign enemies of Afghanistan and the band of the traitor Shahnawaz. I have instructed all responsible state organs to take urgent measures toward assisting families that have suffered. The state of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA], and the units and companies of the Afghan Armed Forces are in control of the situation throughout the country and reports of normality have arrived or are arriving at the Afghan Armed Forces High Command from all provinces of the country and from units and companies stationed in and around Kabul.

Noble compatriots: As you know, the state of the RA, after declaring the national reconciliation policy, and particularly in the course of this one year, has tried to prepare the ground for putting an end to war and fratricide through talks, contacts, and understanding. Notwithstanding the war-mongering policies of the armed opposition extremist groups, which have been a major obstacle in the way of implementing the national reconciliation policy, this policy has successfully passed every difficult test because it is a righteous policy that is in accord with the tradition and Islamic cultural aspirations and beliefs of our people. From the moment the national reconciliation policy was declared, we announced to our compatriots and to all people of the world that the RA considered the solution of Afghanistan's internal and external questions through talks and understanding to be fit and proper. We also announced

that if the armed opposition does not impose war on the country's Armed Forces, we will not be the first to resort to arms. Therefore, we put forward consistently realistic plans and proposals for the solution of the internal and international aspects of the Afghanistan issue and requested the participation in a broad-based coalition of all Afghan political forces, both inside and outside the country, and of independent personalities. We have declared cease-fires several times on various occasions and have observed them unilaterally.

The RA, in consideration of the development of the country's actual social conditions, prepared a series of economic, social, and political policies in accord with the high national interest of the Afghans. It implemented practical measures to strengthen the aspects of joint interests of all forces. The elimination of the monopoly or power by a single party, the revival of parliamentary activity in the country, the conclusion of the Geneva Accords and particularly the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan, the advancement of talks and understanding with the leaders and commanders of the opposition armed groups, and a number of other measures that have been implemented in the national reconciliation process are the manifestation of this truth that no political force [passage indistinct].

However, the conspiracy by Shahnawaz, Gulbuddin, and a handful of their traitorous collaborators, which was organized by Pakistani military intelligence, [words indistinct] proved that some extremist elements linked to the most extremist circles of the opposition in no way [word indistinct] their interests in a peaceful and tranquil atmosphere of our country. Thus at every step that had been and was being taken toward the realization of national reconciliation and national peace and democracy, they put forward pretexts and created a variety of obstacles because they not only sought their own narrow, power-seeking interests in the success and realization of the national reconciliation policy in the country, but intended to conceal their true antipopular and antinational faces by creating critical tense situations and the disruption of stability and peace in the country.

It is obvious that the coup conspirators, in one way or another, saw their positions and ambitions in the evolutionary process of the national reconciliation policy and in the formation of a broad-based government with the participation of all Afghan political forces both inside and outside the country, and were preventing its progress. The vain attempt by Shahnawaz and Gulbuddin in resorting to an antinational and anti-Afghan coup d'etat is an example of such attempts, the heavy burden of which, unfortunately, rests on the shoulders of the people of Afghanistan.

Dear compatriots, Shahnawaz, during his escape yesterday threw away his party card in his office. This was his loyalty to the party, which had enhanced his membership in the Politburo. He has taken off and thrown away his uniform and military belt, which in the tradition of military men, particularly Afghans, is the symbol

of honor and dignity. This is the level of his respect for the sacred military profession which [passage indistinct].

According to information received, Shahnawaz Tanay escaped from the country with a large amount of U.S. dollars, which he acquired through illegal and unlawful means, to Pakistan. All his deeds are a clear manifestation of [words indistinct]. International law gives the right to the people and the state of the RA to (?demand) from the Government of Pakistan the return of Shahnawaz and his criminal collaborators, who have fled with him from the country and have caused the death and killing of [word indistinct] of the homeland. The state of the RA also demands the return of aircraft and the wealth plundered by the band of Shahnawaz. We assure the noble people of the RA that the state of the republic of Afghanistan will continue sincerely the humane and Islamic national reconciliation policy, which the RA has pursued from the very beginning of its announcement, in spite of all intrigues and conspiracies which [word indistinct], and will open the way with firm steps toward peace, reconciliation, compromise, and understanding among the Afghans.

We are confident that Almighty God is with us in this sacred cause and that the people of Afghanistan support us. Success comes from God.

AFP Reports Gen Tanay Flees to Pakistan

BK0703165490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1646 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, March 7 (AFP)—General Shahnawaz Tanay, accused of leading a failed coup against Afghan President Najibullah, fled to Pakistan on Wednesday [7 March], informed sources here said.

Gen. Tanay, removed Tuesday as defense minister, escaped on board a Soviet-made Mi-17 helicopter which landed at 2:06 p.m. (0906 GMT) in Shah Kath, about 20 kilometers west of Peshawar, near the Afghan border.

There was no immediate official confirmation of the report.

Najibullah Visits Kabul Garrison, Meets Personnel

LD0703191290 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1648 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Dear listeners, we draw your attention to a news item we have just received. Esteemed Najibullah, president and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, visited the Kabul Garrison this afternoon and met with its personnel.

A BAKHTAR military correspondent reports that during this meeting, Esteemed Najibullah spoke about the defeat and repulsion of the latest conspiracy of the enemies of the people of Afghanistan. In appreciation he recalled the bravery and steadfastness of the personnel and units of the garrison in foiling the sinister Shahnawaz-Gulbuddin plot.

In return, Lieutenant General Muhammad Nabi 'Azimi, deputy minister of defense and general commander of Kabul Garrison, on behalf of his colleagues, promised any self-sacrifice to maintain nationwide peace and security in the country and defend the independence, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty of the country.

Personnel's Message to Najibullah

*LD0703235790 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1715 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] Message by the personnel of Kabul Garrison's General Command on neutralizing the Gulbuddin-Shahnawaz plot:

Presidency and High Command of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA], to esteemed Najibullah, president and supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the RA, the personnel of the Kabul Garrison General Command, while expressing thanks for your visiting the Command of Kabul Garrison and meeting us, can clearly observe that your scholarly conclusion on the victory of the cause of peace over war has been realized in practice and warmongers with their satanic plans have been crushed and defeated. Now those who until two days ago inside and outside the country were claiming patriotism and serving the homeland have once again stained their hand with the blood of the people of Afghanistan and exposed their filthy, anti-national, anti-homeland, and anti-Afghan faces to the world public with exceptional shamelessness.

We the personnel of the General Command of Kabul Garrison once again pledge to you dear comrade and to all people of Afghanistan that we will fulfill our military and patriotic debt to our last breath. We will push forward towards a nationwide peace in the country under the leadership of the republican state of Afghanistan and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

With regards, General Commandant of Kabul Garrison, Lt. Gen. Muhammad Nabi Azimi

High Command Names Surrendered Persons, Units

*LD0703213190 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1731 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] Statement by the High Command of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA] Armed Forces, 17 Hout 1368 [7 March 1990], Kabul:

The headquarters of the High Command of the RA Armed Forces informs all dear compatriots and personnel of the country's heroic Armed Forces that a number of people and units who were deceived and dragged into the plot, and antipatriotic and antipeace coup d'etat by Gulbuddin-Tanay, have established contact with the Ministry of Defense and the High Command of the Armed Forces after hearing the broadcast statement by the High Command of the Armed Forces of the RA on guaranteeing the security of those people who

come under the command of the Armed Forces. They have given assurances that they will abide by the orders of the Armed Forces' leadership.

For instance, the following persons, units, and companies: Major General 'Abdul Ghafur, deputy chief of the General Staff; General Fateh Muhammad, chief of staff of the Border Forces; and Obayd Gul, commander of the Armored Forces of the 37th Commando Brigade; the 88th Artillery Brigade; the 900th Border Regiment; the 85th unit and 61st Commando Strike Regiment have come under the command of the High Command of the Armed Forces of the RA.

[Signed] High Command of the Armed Forces of the RA

11 Military Officers Defect to Pakistan

*LD0703180990 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT
7 Mar 90*

[Text] Islamabad, March 7 IRNA—An Antonov plane of the Kabul regime carrying four Afghan generals today afternoon made an emergency landing at Parachinar airport and surrendered to the local Pakistani authorities.

According to a mujahidin source, the group of defecting generals include the much decorated Brigadier General Abdul Qadir who played the vital role in both coups, which brought Sardar Daud and the communists into power. The other three generals were identified as Lieutenant General Badshah Mohd Shafiq, Lt. General Amir Hamza and Lt. General Ghulam Hazrat. Other military commanders in the plane are Brigadiers Jan Agha and Saifuddin, Colonels Saifuddin and Haji Muhammad, and 3 captains.

PDPA Committee Secretariat Statement on Coup

*LD0703221290 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1745 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Statement by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee Secretariat]

[Text] In collaboration with Gulbuddin and with the assistance of Pakistan's intelligence service, Shahnawaz Tanay not only perpetrated treason, but also committed treachery against the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA]. Misusing his party membership and his position, he had been engaged for a long time in antiparty incitement, causing a split in the party ranks and leadership and bringing disarray into the party. Through various pretexts and excuses he had been endeavoring to create obstacles in the way of the PDPA national reconciliation policy and of compromise. In his antiparty and antinational deeds, Shahnawaz proceeded to the limit of treason and by collaborating with the criminal Gulbuddin and through him, with the Pakistani intelligence service, he rose against the Republic of Afghanistan [RA]. In recent days when, on one hand, the armed opposition has been continuously faced with military defeats and on the other hand, the plot hatched

by Gulbuddin was foiled in the months of Qaws [21 November-20 December] of the current year, Shahnawaz Tanay and his treacherous henchmen tried to start bloody agitation inside the PDPA and in the Armed Forces of the RA at this sensitive period of time. For the sake of carrying out this plot, Shahnawaz Tanay and his criminal henchmen consented to collaboration with Gulbuddin and the Pakistani intelligence service, and therefore they not only trampled on national interests, but going to the limit of treachery, they trampled on party norms and principles. Before fleeing his headquarters, Shahnawaz threw away his party membership card, which is a proud document belonging to the great family of the defenders of the people and national interests of Afghanistan. It was found today in his office in Dar-ol Aman Palace. Moreover, he took off his military uniform and belt, which customarily is respected by military men and in the Afghan tradition as a sign of honor. He then fled.

All PDPA members, friends, and compatriots thus are being informed that Shahnawaz no longer has any link with the PDPA, which is the defender of the people's interests and the executor of the national reconciliation policy. The PDPA Central Committee Secretariat is fully satisfied that the PDPA members safeguard the honor of their party membership. Maintaining their unity, cohesion, and vigilance, they will not allow expansionists and foreign puppets to toy (?with the people's destiny).

[Signed] PDPA Central Committee Secretariat

IRNA Reports Najibullah 'Struggling' for Kabul

LD070320590 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Islamabad, March 7, IRNA—The Kabul regime is struggling with Tuesday's coup attempt by former defence minister Shahnawaz Tanay to topple General Najibullah, and has been unable to bring the situation under its control.

The deep dissension between the two Marxist factions Khalq and Parcham under Lt-Gen. Shahnawaz Tanay, appointed as defence minister after the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, led to successive coup attempts. The serial began December last, when the Kabul regime crushed a crushed military rebellion [as received], and arrested several affiliates of the Khalq faction and some other groups.

Reports reaching from Kabul say that Tanay in cooperation with some segments of the ground and air forces, began to attack the airport, radio and T.V. station, and presidential areas yesterday afternoon while the Council of the Ministers were debating the trial of 124 people accused of plotting coup against Najibullah. The latest news from Kabul speak of fierce fighting between coup forces and servicemen loyal to Najibullah with the radio and T.V. station, and the airport being paralyzed.

Hezb-e Eslami (Mawlawi Yunis Khalis group) forces that were deployed in Bagh Daud [placename as received] in the slopes of Paghman valley are now fighting against the Najibullah's Marxists in Qarghah and Army Division No 40, stationed in Darol Aman of Kabul, very near to the main headquarters of the Defence Ministry.

Unrest and fear prevail [in] the Afghan capital and severe clashes are reportedly raging in the streets and lanes of the city. Curfew has been imposed on the capital and the Kabul regime is broadcasting its statements and communiques via an underground transmitting station named Watan Ghag, appealing for order.

A source of the Jamiyat-e Eslami's military office reported that one hundred lorries carried panic-stricken families from Kabul to Paghman district to the headquarters of Mujahidin.

Panic of the Kabul citizens came to worse, when thick columns of smoke and fire shot in the air in the outskirts of the city and the Bagram air-base.

A report by the Etehad-e Eslami said that the Bagh Daud forces kept shelling Darol Aman and the 4th armoured regiment in Pol-e Charkhi hammering Qarghah division. Qarghah forces are under command of Tanay and the Bagh Daud's are loyal to Najibullah. News reaching media today at 10:00 pm says that the Bagram air-base has fallen to mujahidin. The news has not yet been confirmed by independent sources.

Najibullah Declares Coup Attempt Over 7 Mar

LD0703194190 Kabul in English to Europe 1830 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Now we bring you a declaration by the High Command of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA]. The text reads as follows:

In the name of God, the Compassionate and the Merciful.

Dear compatriots, a number of extremist vagabonds listed inside the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan resorted in complicity with some traitors and Gulbuddin to arise against the state and people, trying to commit their last (?attrition) against the suffering people and country of Afghanistan.

This is to inform the Afghan citizens that the conspiracy has been foiled and former defense minister, Shahnawaz Tanay, has run away to an unknown place.

General Muhammad Aslam Watanjar has been appointed as defense minister of the Republic of Afghanistan and Raz Muhammad Paktin as interior minister. They have assumed their offices.

All servicemen of the army and Ministry of Interior must fully abide by their instructions.

Dear compatriots, the situation in the country is calm. The antipeople and antihomeland conspiracy has been

foiled. The valorous people of the country are called upon to take the high interest of the country into consideration with vigilance and boldness. Peace inevitably will triumph over war.

[Signed] Najibullah, president of the RA and chief commander of the Armed Forces of the RA

Gen Tanay Reportedly Meets Rebels, Returns Home

BK0803005090 Hong Kong AFP in English 2002 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Islamabad, March 7 (AFP)—Afghan coup leader General Shahnawaz Tanay met with rebel leaders near the Pakistani border Wednesday and then returned to Afghanistan to continue fighting, a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"Gen. Tanay ... came to a point close to the Pakistan's border today (Wednesday) and met with a number of mujahidin leaders," the spokesman, cited by the official ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN news agency, said. "Later, he returned with mujahidin leaders to a point deeper in Afghanistan to continue his struggle against Najibullah's regime," he added.

Another spokesman said earlier that "as far as we have heard, he is safe and he is still fighting it out, probably from a base in Parwan Province," northwest of Kabul, where Gen. Tanay launched a coup attempt against Soviet-backed President Najibullah on Tuesday.

Informed sources in Peshawar said that Gen. Tanay, who was removed as defence minister shortly after the start of the coup attempt Tuesday, had fled Afghanistan and arrived Wednesday in Shah Kath, in the Jamrud area, 20 kilometers (12 miles) west of Peshawar. Peshawar is the seat of the interim mujahidin government and is located near the Afghan border.

The sources said the general arrived in Pakistan Wednesday afternoon aboard an Afghan Army helicopter with his wife and three children. Some sources said the Pakistani authorities, who support the armed opposition to the regime in Kabul, may have delayed the announcement of Gen. Tanay's flight to Pakistan in a bid to keep forces loyal to the general as well as the mujahidin fighting.

Pakistani Official Confirms Return

BK0803013690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] The latest reports from Afghanistan say that although stray shooting is still continuing in Kabul, the main battle is now reportedly raging at the Bagram Airport. Two fighter aircraft of the Air Force from across the northern border have attacked the Bagram Airport. There are also reports that when Air Force aircraft attacked the presidential palace, and the radio, and television stations, they met no resistance. Antiaircraft artillery took action against the Air Force planes.

Meanwhile, an official spokesman has described as totally baseless and incorrect the foreign media report that Afghan coup leader General Shahnawaz Tanay has reached Pakistan and sought refuge here. The spokesman told Radio Pakistan's representative last night that General Tanay had come to a certain place near the Pakistani border where he met with mujahidin leaders. He later returned to his headquarters, whereabouts unknown, to continue his operations.

A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad has also categorically rejected the report that Pakistan is in any way involved in the action launched on Tuesday [6 March] to overthrow the Kabul regime in Afghanistan. Briefing newsmen about the situation, the spokesman said it has once again proved how weak the Najibullah regime is.

Answering a question, the spokesman said it is difficult to specify the aims of the action of General Tanay and his supporters against Dr. Najibullah. It seems that he and his colleagues are tired of Army Commander Dr. Najibullah and they might have thought that Dr. Najibullah was the greatest obstacle in the way of a political solution to the Afghan problem.

The spokesman added that mujahidin groups joining General Tanay's forces have done so in the hope that this will pave the way for a political settlement of the Afghan problem.

Earlier, the spokesman read out a statement saying that incidents of far-reaching importance have taken place in Afghanistan. Although it is not possible to explain the exact details of these incidents, undoubtedly, they have once again fully vindicated Pakistan's basic stand for a political solution of Afghanistan problem.

BBC Sources Say Tanay in Pakistan

BK0803031690 London BBC World Service in English 0220 GMT 8 Mar 90

[From "Newsreel" program]

[Text] In Pakistan, there is still confusion about the whereabouts of the former Afghan defense minister, General Shahnawaz Tanay, who fled his country on Wednesday [7 March] by helicopter to meet mujahidin leaders. Pakistani officials say the general afterward returned to Afghanistan, but, as Lyce Doucet in Islamabad told us, other reports suggest that this is not the case.

[Begin Doucet recording] A military helicopter reportedly crossed the Pakistan border from where it was escorted by Pakistani jets to a town just west of the frontier city of Peshawar. Pakistani officials there said the former Afghan defense minister, General Tanay, was in the helicopter along with his wife and three children, including a one and half-year-old son. But senior officials in Islamabad later said that after meeting guerrilla leaders, General Tanay returned with some of them to an area deep inside Afghanistan. It's possible General

Tanay had to return quickly to continue his operations against the government. However, informed sources say he is still here, raising questions about Pakistan's role in the current events and the extent of collaboration among the guerrillas, Afghan Army officers, and Pakistani military intelligence. Pakistani government officials have repeatedly denied any involvement, although they are one of the guerrillas' main backers.

If, as it appears, General Tanay is now actively collaborating with guerrilla forces, it marks a new phase in the more than 10-year war with implications for Washington, which arms the guerrillas and Moscow, the Afghan government's main ally.

The situation inside Afghanistan is still confused. Western diplomats say fighting continued into the night in Kabul and speak of new air strikes against the capital. These and guerrilla sources also say rebel officers and the mujahidin control the Bagram Air Base, north of the capital, although some units loyal to President Najibullah are reportedly still holding out. [end recording]

Najibullah Reported 'Operating From Safe Place'

*BK0803023690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 8 Mar 90*

[Text] Latest reports from Afghanistan say although stray shooting is still continuing in Kabul, the main battle is now reportedly raging at the Bagram Air Base. Two fighter aircraft of the Air Force from across the northern border have attacked the Bagram Airport. There are also reports that when Air Force aircraft attacked the presidential palace, radio, and television stations in Kabul, they were not met with any resistance. Only anti-aircraft artillery took action against the Air Force planes. The 4th, 5th, and 15th Divisions of the Army so far loyal to the weak Najibullah regime have now turned against him. Announcements made on Radio Kabul and television also confirm this, in which reports about surrender of some Afghan commanders who command more than half of the Army have been broadcast [sentence as heard].

A report about Dr. Najibullah says that he is operating from a safe place, and if the Kabul regime's claim of recapturing the Defense Ministry headquarters is correct, then Dr. Najibullah has possibly shifted to that place.

AFP Reportage on Situation in Kabul 8 Mar

Foreign Embassies Hit

*BK0803062890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0605 GMT
8 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] Islamabad, March 8 (AFP)—At least five foreign embassies were bombarded in Kabul as Afghan Government forces fought off a military coup attempt, Western diplomatic sources said here Thursday. They

said Kabul seemed quiet Thursday morning, but there was fighting elsewhere in the country. They gave no details.

Earlier, Kabul Radio, monitored here, reported that everything was under control and urged citizens to return to work.

The diplomatic sources said there had been heavy fighting Wednesday around the KHAD secret police headquarters in Kabul. Embassies damaged included those of Mongolia, China, Iran, Turkey and Italy, the sources said. They gave no casualty figures.

(In Washington, a senior State Department official said fighting continued into the night and had spread outside Kabul to cities including Qandahar, Khowst and Jalalabad.)

A Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman said late Wednesday that the key air base of Bagram, north of Kabul, remained in rebel hands while there were indications that the government was regaining control in the capital. He said the military rebels had cooperated with mujahidin guerrillas in several areas. [passage omitted]

(In Kabul, eyewitnesses and diplomatic sources said hundreds had been killed or wounded in the first 24 hours of the putsch.)

Streets Quiet at Daybreak

*BK0803065890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0651 GMT
8 Mar 90*

[By Anil Penna]

[Excerpts] Kabul, March 8 (AFP)—The Afghan capital was quiet Thursday, a day after government forces claimed to have crushed an attempted coup by sections of the Armed Forces owing allegiance to sacked defence minister Shahnawaz Tanay. Tanks and armored personnel carriers patrolled the city of 1.5 million people as residents ventured out for the first time after huddling indoors all day Wednesday. The bazaars were open, road traffic was back to normal and government offices were back to work for the first time since the coup was launched Tuesday. Municipal sweepers were cleaning the streets of debris left by a day and night of fighting, and the government ordered all employees to resume work Thursday to restore normalcy to the war-battered capital.

Wednesday night was largely calm except for machinegun fire which crackled sporadically in the distance. Army tanks and armored personnel carriers were guarding the approaches to the presidential palace in the city center, which was heavily bombarded by renegade planes.

President Najibullah had appeared on television Wednesday night to congratulate the Armed Forces for

crushing the attempted coup, the most serious threat to his Soviet-backed government ever mounted. [passage omitted]

Soldiers enforced an 11 hour curfew in Kabul beginning 7 p.m. local time Wednesday (1430 GMT). Government officials said the situation was "very much under control and everything is normal." [passage omitted]

The last air raid on the city by the rebels was carried out at 10.15 a.m. Wednesday (0545 GMT) in the vicinity of Mr. Najibullah's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) headquarters. Some sources said a bomb had been dropped "in the middle of the presidential palace" (which adjoins the headquarters) but this could not be confirmed. At least two air defence units are based around the palace and no anti-aircraft fire was heard. [passage omitted]

The city shook to sounds of heavy artillery and bombs as rival army units pounded one another for 20 hours starting at 1.30 p.m. Tuesday (0900 GMT). Intermittent machine gun fire crackled in the center of the city round the presidential palace. Most of the combat appeared to be concentrated in the Darul Aman area south of the city where the Defence Ministry is located.

Government troops pounded rebel forces holed up in one Defence Ministry establishment with shells fired from tanks and gained control of the area around 9.30 a.m. Wednesday (0500 GMT) when the intensity of the fighting eased off.

"We have solved everything," a government spokesman said late Wednesday, "there is no problem now, we are in control." The situation at Bagram Airbase, some 50 kilometers (35 miles) north of the city was however unclear. (The Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman said the base remained in rebel hands.) Rebel MiG and Sukhoi planes flying out of Bagram were involved in the bombing of the city.

More Clashes in Provinces

BK0803103490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1008 GMT
8 Mar 90

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, March 8 (AFP)—Fighting was reported Thursday [8 March] in several Afghan provinces, including the Kabul region, with the Islamic resistance saying it was inflicting "heavy blows" against government forces.

Two news agencies run by separate resistance factions reported Thursday that the town of Kalat, a government bastion, had been taken, which would put the entire border province of Zabol in guerrilla hands. There was no independent confirmation, but a Western diplomat said he had "the same information from generally reliable resistance sources."

Guerrilla forces brought down two government MiG jet fighters Thursday with U.S.-made Stinger surface-to-air

missiles in the Khowst region of southeastern Afghanistan, the AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) AGENCY reported. AIP said two government security posts were captured Wednesday east of Khowst, where Moslem guerrillas tightened their siege last month.

Army rebels who mounted a coup bid on Tuesday exchanged fire with government troops in Jalalabad Thursday morning, AIP said.

Clashes continued between government forces and mujahidin from Commander Ahmed Shah Mas'ud Northern Council in the Jabal os Seraj sector some 70 kilometres (45 miles) north of Kabul, a spokesman for the rebel chief said in Peshawar.

The status of the key Bagram Air Base, 50 kms (35 miles) north of the capital, was uncertain. A Pakistani official and some resistance spokesmen said the base was in rebel hands, but other resistance sources said government troops had retaken it from the forces of General Shahnawaz Tanay, who was said to have headed the coup attempt. The same sources spoke however of heavy fighting near Bagram Thursday morning.

AIP said Tanay forces in the Bagram region trained their artillery Thursday on military installations at Tapai-Tajbek, in Kabul's Darulaman sector where the defense ministry is located, setting off a fire.

The AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA), which is close to Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami faction, reported fighting Wednesday between pro-government militia and mujahidin in the Khewa sector east of Jalalabad. Two mujahidin were killed and eight wounded, ANA said. It also reported clashes in the Maidan-Shahr sector of Wardak Province, some 30 kms (20 miles) west of the capital, and in Lowgar Province, around Pol-e 'Alam, some 60 kms (35 miles) south of Kabul.

Pol-e 'Alam, the provincial center, was the only area still in government hands after the fall of Muhammed Agah Wednesday, Western diplomats said.

ANA added that the Khawaja Rawash base, near Kabul, was "in mujahidin hands."

IRNA Reports Zabul Falls to Mujahidin

LD0803104790 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT
8 Mar 90

[Text] Islamabad, March 8, IRNA—Zabul, the provincial headquarters of Kalat Province fall to mujahidin at 10.00 am Wednesday, a reliable source told IRNA here a short while ago. With the fall of Zabul the whole province is now under complete control of mujahidin, from where they are able to control the Kalat-Qandahar road.

Meanwhile, according to another report the Kabul regime forces based in Torkotal area of Qandahar Province surrendered themselves along with their arms and

ammunition to mujahidin at 11.00 am Wednesday. Further detail is not yet available.

Heavy fighting is reported going on around Qandahar Airport. A Kabul regime jet fighter was shot down by mujahidin on Wednesday in Khowst District of Paktia Province, the source said. He further told IRNA that heavy fighting has been going on between mujahidin and Kabul regime forces in Behsud District of Nanagarhar Province, as a result of which two mujahidin were reportedly martyred and eight others wounded. There is no report yet available on casualties sustained by the Kabul regime forces.

Courts Created To Deal With Conspirators

LD0803123190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1130 GMT 8 Mar 90

[All names as heard]

[Text] The Office of the President reports that a decree from esteemed Najibullah, the president of Afghanistan, concerning the formation of a special court and a prosecutor's office has been issued as follows:

Presidential Decree Concerning the Formation of a Special Court and Special Prosecutor Office:

To assess the great conspiratorial national treason by the conspirators, who on Tuesday, 6 March 1990, headed by Shahnawaz Tanay and a number of others, committed an unforgivable crime against the independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and gains of the policy of national reconciliation, and who inflicted great losses of life and material on the state and the people, in accordance with the instructions of Paragraph 3, Part B, Article 3 of the state of emergency law, the formation of a special court and prosecutor's office is approved as follows:

1. Special prosecutors office to be composed of the following people:

Esteemed Sayyed Sharafuddin as chairman.
Esteemed 'Abdul Hadi Khalilzay as vice-chairman.
Esteemed Sayyed Ghulam Hosayn Fakhri as vice-chairman.
Esteemed Colonel Muhammadi Sharifi as member.
Esteemed Habib Rasul as member.
Esteemed Fazl Rahman Pasun as member.

2. Special court for assessing the matter to be composed of the following people:

A. Esteemed 'Abdul Karim Shadan as chairman.

B. At the preliminary hearing:

Esteemed Harif as chairman.
Esteemed Shah Muhammad as member.
Esteemed Col. Ali Muhammad as member.

C. First appeal state:

Esteemed Col. Nesar Ahmad as chairman.
Esteemed Sakhi Obayd as member.
Esteemed Zia Ahmad Nedayi as member.

The Prosecutor's Office is dutybound, in the least possible time, to assess the [words indistinct] crimes of the accused and to send the relevant [information] to the special court. The special revolutionary court is dutybound, in the least possible time, to pass sentences in consideration of Article 111 of the Constitution in accordance with the enforced laws of the country as well as in consideration of the conditions of war and state of emergency and in consideration of the coup d'etat and conspiratorial character of their action. The high Islamic and Afghan principles and the high interests of the people of Afghanistan, the protection of independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the country, and the principles of the policy of national reconciliation are to be the basis of the approach and activity of the court and the Prosecutor's Office which I have pledged in the oath enshrined in Article 74 of the Constitution at the Loya Jerga of Qaws, 1366 [November-December 1987] before the representatives of the people of Afghanistan, and thus which I have approved.

[Signed] Najibullah, President of Afghanistan

Decree Expels Coup Leaders From Defense Council

LD0803151190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1430 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Decree issued by President Najibullah in Kabul on 8 March]

[Text] As a number of members of the Homeland Defense High Council, by taking part in the treacherous coup d'etat staged by Shahnawaz, have committed an unforgivable crime against the country's independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and against the success of the policy of national reconciliation and the high interests of the people of Afghanistan, the expulsion from the Homeland Defense High Council of the following individuals as national traitors is approved:

1. Shahnawaz Tanay
2. Niaz Muhammad Muhmand
3. Mir Saheb Karwal
4. Lt. General Nazar Muhammad
5. Lt. General 'Abdul Qadir Agah

[Signed] Najibullah, President of Afghanistan

AFP Reports Najibullah Holds News Conference

BK0803151490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1449 GMT
8 Mar 90

[Text] Kabul, March 8 (AFP)—President Najibullah declared Thursday that the coup d'etat crushed by his armed forces had re-emphasised the strength of his Soviet-backed government.

He urged the West to revise its pro-resistance policy. "Foiling the coup d'etat makes us more hopeful and elevates the prestige of the government of the Republic of Afghanistan," Mr. Najibullah told a press conference here a day after the coup was crushed.

Mr. Najibullah, dressed in a grey suit and looking fresh, seemed in a combative mood as he answered journalists' questions at the Foreign Ministry's conference hall. He stressed that his Armed Forces had crushed the coup bid on their own without outside assistance, taking a dig at the Philippines, which required U.S. tactical assistance to put down the December putsch there. He said the aborted coup bid had helped prove that the Afghan Government was healthy and strong and provided evidence that its armed forces were powerful enough to defend the country.

Mr. Najibullah, 42, said Western governments should also draw a lesson from the political detente prevailing in the world and leave their "policy of vacillation" towards Afghanistan. "We are optimistic that the West will revise their policies towards Afghanistan," said the former chief of the feared Khad secret police.

Mr. Najibullah said the coup was the result of a well-planned conspiracy between sacked defence minister Shah Nawaz Tanay and Pakistan-based Afghan radical fundamentalist leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar. He said it was supervised by Islamabad's military intelligence. He said his government had tried to persuade coup leaders to drop the action and took "swift and decisive" countermeasures to crush it after getting a "negative reply."

A number of air force squadrons had taken part in the attempted putsch, which led to a day and night of fierce fighting. When it was clear that the attempt was bound to fail, coup leaders fled to Pakistan using a helicopter and two transport planes, he said.

He said Gen. Tanay's "lust for power" had made him mount the abortive bid and also blamed the ex-defence minister's opposition to the government's policy of national reconciliation. Mr. Najibullah said the failed coup had resulted in the removal of the "vestiges of opposition to the policy of national reconciliation within the state and party apparatus." "This makes us optimistic that the Afghan problem will come closer to a solution," the president said, adding that "extremists on both sides" had been isolated.

Mr. Najibullah said the people of Afghanistan supported his party's policy of trying to talk peace with the Pakistan and Iran-based resistance and wanted traitors to be "buried in the graves they themselves have dug." He claimed that the party was totally united and was determined to "struggle to the last." "Our unity has not been undermined but strengthened," he added.

Pakistani Spokesman on Najibullah, Tanay Location
BK0803162390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] A heavy concentration of Afghan troops has been reported near Kabul; almost all roads leading to the city are blocked; and the Afghan capital is completely isolated from the rest of the country. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon that it appears all divisions stationed in and around the capital seem split and are fighting against each other. He said according to reports fierce fighting continues in Bagram, Khowst, Herat, and Kalat. Heavy fighting is continuing very near Khowst, and contacts have been established between the Khowst garrison commander and the attacking mujahidin forces for terms of surrender to the mujahidin.

About the aerial attacks on the Bagram air base, the spokesman said two aircraft that took off from Mazar-I-Sharif bombed the air base. These attacks inflicted considerable damage to the base. The Najibullah regime had asked one of the two divisions stationed in Jalalabad to advance toward Kabul to ease pressure on its troops there, but this division is still in Sarowbi and is not advancing toward Kabul.

The spokesman said that the troops involved in the coup against Najibullah are not surrendering in large numbers, but might be retreating to safer places to launch new attacks. The spokesman said that various field commanders of the mujahidin and revolting troops are extending strategic cooperation to each other.

The spokesman said according to the reports Najibullah is in Kabul, but he is issuing instructions from an embassy and not from the Presidential Palace. General Shanawaz Tanay is also deep inside Afghan territory. There is evidence that he has access to a mobile transmitter from which he is broadcasting to the Afghan people that he and the mujahidin leaders have agreed to continue the uprising until Najibullah is overthrown and a broad-based government is set up in Kabul that is acceptable to the Afghan people.

Answering a question, the spokesman said there is no way that the Najibullah regime will emerge stronger from the coup. The rebellion on part of a large section of his own Armed Forces has destroyed the entire political base that he had built for himself during the past year. He added that it is the moment of reevaluation for supporters of the Najibullah regime.

Answering another question, he said the Soviet Union has not taken sides so far in Afghanistan, and there is no evidence of massive Soviet efforts to support either Najibullah or General Tanay.

The spokesman said Pakistan believes that a solution of the Afghan problem is available. There is the traditional instrument in Afghan society of Loya Jirgah [Grand Assembly], which could and should be convened, and it

could greatly contain the tension in a society that has been torn on ideological and other grounds.

India

2 'Senior Afghan Officials' Defect in Delhi

LD0703175790 Kuwait KUNA in English 1543 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] New Delhi, March 7 (KUNA)—Two senior Afghan officials, Ghulam Gelani Wali, a diplomat in Afghanistan Embassy in India, and Major Mohammed Siddiq [name as received], Wednesday defected and sought refugee status from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Indian capital. Mr Wali was working as assistant attache in the Afghan mission in India and Major Siddiq in Defence Ministry Headquarters in Kabul.

The officials today expressed solidarity with the Afghan Mujahidins and announced their decision to join Hezb-e Islami group of Mujahidins, led by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar.

Major Siddiq escaped from Kabul with the help of supporters of Mujahidins.

The two senior officials were introduced to newsmen by a representative of Hezb-e Islami group Mohammed Ibrahim at a press conference here Wednesday.

Mr Wali and Maj Siddiq were critical of the role of President Najibullah, saying he had recruited over 40,000 people for monitoring movements of Afghan guerrilla groups in and outside Afghanistan. Maj Siddiq claimed that a number of top Army officials have established links with the Mujahidins and were supporting their cause. However, he refused to give further details about them.

Mr Wali, who has served in India for about a decade, said that Khad-Afghan intelligence service is trying to (?discredit) the Afghan Mujahidins by spreading all sorts of rumours about their activities in India. He said it was Khad which spread rumours that Afghan are involved in militant activities in the Kashmir Valley. "The report is totally unfounded and baseless."

Both have applied to the UNHCR and are expected to get the refugee status very soon.

Commentary Analyzes Abortive Coup in Afghanistan

BK0803113690 Delhi General Overseas Service
in English 1010 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Commentary by D.R. Goel]

[Text] Afghanistan is again in the news, as Dr. Najibullah has foiled an attempted coup. The attempt was made by General Shahnawaz Tanay, the defense minister. According to Kabul government sources, the

coup attempt has been crushed by what they described as the firm and timely action of the Armed Forces units based in Kabul city.

This information was given in a press conference by the Afghan ambassador in New Delhi, Mr. Ahmad Sarwar. The ambassador said that the government was in full control of the situation, the Armed Forces and security personnel being firm in their loyalty to the government. Mr. Shahnawaz Tanay has been displaced by Mr. Aslam Watanjar as defense minister. The hunt for Mr. Tanay is on, while his supporters have been apprehended. According to reports from Kabul, the coup apparently was planned by the former defense minister in collaboration with the Hekmatyar faction of the Peshawar-based opponents of the Kabul government.

The coup started at about 1345 Indian Standard Time on Tuesday [6 March], when some unidentified aircraft tried to bombard the presidential palace and some Army units mutinied at Bagram, an Army and Air Force base a few kilometers away from Kabul. The bombers were repulsed by antiaircraft fire. While no damage was caused to the presidential palace, the bombs dropped by them caused some civilian casualties. The matrist units at Bagram were overpowered by loyal troops after a brief exchange of fire.

The scenario was a repeat of what happened in April 1978, when the sour revolution had broken out with an air attack on the presidential palace followed immediately by artillery attack. The difference this time was that the onslaught had failed. The second noticeable difference was the attitude of the people. While at that time the population of Kabul hailed the coup, this time there was no indication of support. The leader of the frustrated coup, Shahnawaz Tanay, is said to be an extremist and opposed to President Najibullah's policy of national reconciliation. His collaboration with Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the Hezb-e Islami leader is a classic example of two coming together. The most likely reason for their coming together is that both of them would like to frustrate the peace which seems to be making progress. What has happened is not something altogether unexpected.

The government in Kabul has unearthed a plot to overthrow it in December last, when more than a hundred Army officers were arrested. Documentary evidence was at that time made public, showing the link of the conspiracy with Hekmatyar group in Peshawar. This attempt also seems to be a part of the same conspiracy. Coming, as it does, at a time when Washington is relaxing its insistence on the bringing down of Najibullah as a precondition for peace negotiations, it looks like a desperate attempt to stall a political solution of the problem. The shift in the U.S. policy obviously is creating a sense of desperation among those who have been heavily relying upon all kinds of support from the United States and its allies. This was the second major

onslaught on the Kabul government after the complete pullout of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan in pursuance of the Geneva accord.

The first one was launched on 7 March 1989, three weeks after the last Soviet soldier left the soil of Afghanistan. That was a massive attack planned and executed with the advice and active help of Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence. The border city of Jalalabad was nearly razed to the ground. But the invasion was defeated. It was a great humiliation for the Peshawar-based opposition, who had proclaimed they would capture not only Jalalabad but also Kabul in a matter of weeks. For their Western supporters, it was a serious loss of face. After the Jalalabad fiasco, attempts were made to capture Khowst, Qandahar, Herat, et cetera. None of them succeeded. In Kabul, neither the government fell; nor did the ruling party, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, disintegrate. By all accounts, its unity became stronger in the face of adversity. Having gained confidence, President Najibullah took measures and adopted postures, which won him acclaim in the comity of nations. As against that, the interim government formed by rebels in Peshawar showed signs of crumbling and losing support in the world.

Minister Goes to Egypt as Singh's Special Envoy

BK0303163190 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 3 Mar 90

[Text] The union minister for energy and civil aviation, Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan, left New Delhi for Egypt today on a goodwill visit as a special envoy of the prime minister, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh. Mr. Khan will also visit Algiers and is expected to return by the end of next week. During his stay in Cairo, Mr. Khan will call on the Egyptian president, Mr. Husni Mubarak.

'Thousands of Hindus' Flee Unrest in Kashmir

BK0803031090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0243 GMT 8 Mar 90

[By Pratap Chakravarty]

[Text] Srinagar, India, March 8 (AFP)—Thousands of Hindus are fleeing picturesque Kashmir Valley fearing that growing Muslim agitation for independence could lead to communal bloodletting in the state. A small exodus of Hindus from the valley's 28 towns and cities has turned into a large-scale migration south to Jammu, the state's Hindu dominated winter capital, in the past three months because of the unprecedented campaign aimed against India's control of the region. Prosperous Hindu traders, professionals and government officials have fled Srinagar, the hub of Muslim militants spearheading the independence campaign, following calls by the militants to shut businesses and offices, residents here say.

Hindu organizations in the valley estimate that some 40,000 people have gone south since January, when the

pro-independence movement turned violent, leaving behind their homes and property. The unrest has so far claimed some 200 lives.

"Militant Muslim groups have now consolidated in Kashmir and posters have come up threatening Hindus to either participate in the campaign or leave the valley," head of the All India Pundit Sabha (priests forum) J.N. Jattu said. He said that 32 Hindus have been killed in the growing violence in Srinagar city alone in the three month period from January and charged Muslim politicians with supporting the murders. "Our Hindu community is now very scared as, despite Muslim assurances, several Hindus have been selectively shot," he said.

The Muslim politicians deny the charge but even some Hindu journalists and police officers have abandoned their posts in Srinagar and fled to Jammu or other Hindu dominated cities, officials here said. They added that state-run radio and television stations had pulled their men out of Srinagar because of the violence.

"We are afraid to protest, we cannot speak. Kashmir is our birthplace and yet we fear for our lives," Mr. Jattu said, adding that in 1947 the Hindu population of Kashmir, India's only Muslim majority state, was 250,000 and has since come down to 25,000 partly because of the militant-led violence. "If the movement would have been for the liberation of Kashmir, we would have tolerated it, or even participated, but the campaign is a fundamentalist Islamic movement which aims for an Islamic state," the Hindu activist said.

He added that leaders of several Hindu groups including the Shiv Sena (Lord Shiva's army) and Bajrang Dal had also expressed fears of large-scale anti-Hindu violence in Kashmir. "Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh will have to do something as local leaders have no base in this present campaign. There is a bankruptcy of leadership in Kashmir, so how can the Hindus bank on any assurances given by individual politicians," Mr. Jattu said.

Some Hindus have taken the first bus out of Srinagar, relying on neighbours to protect their homes and belongings, while others have sold their property in panic and moved to safer parts of the state where curfew, daily killings and counter-attacks by security forces have not become the order of the day.

"I have sent my daughters and son to New Delhi and I would leave as soon as this curfew is lifted," Amrit Lal, a carpet trader, said in the city's Rambagh area.

"It is a conspiracy of India to start this bogey of anti-Hindu tirade," said Maulavi Abbas Ansari, convenor of the influential regional Muslim United Front Party. "If this migration continues then the Indian Government would get a handle to start strong action against our Muslim population." "There is widespread fear among the Muslims that the government was deliberately ordering Hindus out of Kashmir so that they can

order a genocide," the powerful Muslim politician said, adding that there was perfect harmony between Muslims and Hindus in the valley.

"We have supplied food in the Hindu temples... we have asked our Hindu brothers not to leave Kashmir or sell their homes here but it is all an Indian conspiracy," the Muslim priest-cum-politician said. "The situation would deteriorate once the Hindus and Sikhs leave Kashmir. There would be a bloodbath in the hands of the security forces," Mr. Ansari said.

"The army would bomb us once the Hindus leave our colony," Kashmiri Muslims screamed at a group of reporters walking through a previously busy market center of Srinagar.

The Jammu and Kashmir state government now under governor's rule is silent on the issue of migration by the Hindus, but says it would provide protection to the minority in the event of any communal violence in the region.

'Terrorists' Kill 22, Injure 35 in Punjab Town

*BK0803033190 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Mar 90*

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists massacred at least 22 persons and injured 35 others in Abohar town in Ferozepore District late last evening and managed to escape. According to the DIG [Deputy Inspector General of Police] of Ferozepore Range, seven terrorists armed with sophisticated weapons indiscriminately fired from four directions on a crowd in the town. They also hurled a powerful bomb. One hand grenade has been recovered from the spot. The injured have been admitted to the hospitals.

The police chief of Punjab, Mr. K.P.S. Gill, has rushed to Abohar. Security forces have launched vigorous combing operations in Abohar and adjoining districts. The state governor, Mr. Nirmal Mukherjee, is also reaching Abohar today to take stock of the situation. He has condemned the killings and conveyed his heart-felt condolences to the members of the bereaved families.

Prohibitory Order in Meerut Due to Holi Festival

*BK0703080890 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, prohibitory order has been promulgated with immediate effect in the whole of Meerut city and the cantonment areas in view of the ensuing Holi Festival. The order bans the carrying of arms, use of loudspeakers, and throwing of water colors on unwilling persons. It will remain in force till the fifth of next month.

Iran

President Views Economy; Notes Hostages Issue

*LD0703191490 Tehran IRNA in English 1405 GMT
7 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 7, IRNA—The president told a press conference today that Iran's Muslim people have maintained the same revolutionary spirit as they had during the lifetime of Imam Khomeyni.

Except for some difficulties in the area of projects for economic independence, said Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Islamic Republic does not have any problem, and currently plans are under way for improving the skilled workforce, as a means of facilitating the march to economic independence.

He added that the ministries of education, higher education, health and labour are to develop skilled workforce for the future.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said public sector revenue in the current calendar year (ending March 20) was higher than forecasted in the budget plan. He elaborated that payments in the current year dropped by about one per cent, but the development budget was 49 per cent higher, whereas in the calendar year 1367 (1988-89) about 13 per cent of the budget had been expended above forecasts.

Even cash deposits by private citizens in the banks was 18 per cent higher this year compared to the previous year, said the president, and noted that paper money and coins in the hands of the people was 8.5 per cent lower than it was in the previous year.

He said Iran's non-oil exports during the year rose by 20.3 per cent and imports up by 57 per cent. While in the industrial area, he added, about 525 million dlr were appropriated for heavy and light industries which has brought substantial revenues to the government.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said for the time being the government provides hard currency to industrial producers at 800 rials per U.S. dollar. He said the government could offer the same to industrialists at the official bank rate, but the practice would have adverse effects on the home economy and would doubtless push the government towards foreign borrowing.

He said at the current rate, industrial plants can produce, for example, iron profiles at about 500 rials per kilogram whereas, he said, at the time being profile iron is not to be bought by consumers at even such a high cost as 1,500 rials.

In future the business and production policies will be based on the foreign exchange system at the competitive rates, said Hashemi-Rafsanjani and added that subsidies which tends to promote 'sluggishness' among the masses will not continue in the future.

The president said during the last six months some products have sold at higher prices and some at lower prices than in the previous period of year. He said in the last calendar year inflation was 28.8 per cent, but that this year it has been 19.8 per cent.

He said the rate of inflation in wholesale prices last year was 21.5 per cent which dropped to 19.2 per cent this year. Between March and June 1989, he said, large plants and workshops in Iran produced 8.5 per cent lower than the previous year, which during the first three months of the current year improved to 6.1 per cent lower than the year before.

During the second half of the current Iranian year, he said, there was an increase of 8.1 per cent in production, while during the same period in the previous year, he recalled, production had seen a drop of about 11.2 per cent.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said copper production in Iran has soared from the previous figure of 55,000 tons to 70,000, and that in the upcoming calendar year (starting March 20) it is to reach 100,000 tons. Aluminum, he said, is currently being produced at 10,000 tons which is consistent with consumer needs at home, except that there are certain irregularities in connection with its distribution.

Export of lead and zinc, he said, is now 30 million dollars per year, and the revenue on export of copper has increased from a previous figure of 41 million dollars to 65 million dollars.

In the area of agriculture, said the president, farmlands in Iran compose 450,000 hectares which this year produced 1,240 kilograms more produce per hectare.

In the pharmaceutical sector there was encouraging improvement with production increasing by 65 percent, he said. As for hospitals and medical workers, he said, there is now some deficiency which would be overcome in the near future.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said to overcome the deficiencies, it has been agreed in principle for constructing 50 medical colleges throughout the country, building 600 basic health centers, and clinics, and 30 schools for auxiliary medical work. He also said that inoculation against tetanus, measles and diphtheria has substantially improved.

In addition, said the president, 33 junior college courses, 31 courses at the under-graduate level, 38 post-graduate courses, and 13 doctoral courses have been established by the Ministry of Health.

Also, he said, the ministry has built 50 educational centers, and expended 82 million dollars in appropriations for improvement of the facilities needed at colleges and universities. 15 million dollars have been budgeted for purchase of books, added Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In the next academic year, he said there will be 3,000 more classes in Tehran.

Regarding the progress in the means of conveyance, the president said, transportation capacity has been improved by 30 percent without increasing the total number of vehicles.

While at the airport and at customs centres, facilities have significantly improved, he added.

Toward the end of his report to media men on the national status, reporters posed questions to the president.

Asked about the missing westerners in Lebanon, he said the question is more the business of the Lebanese and that if they be interested in solving it then the Islamic Republic would encourage them to solve that problem.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani also denied rumours about likely changes in his cabinet.

Asked about the Soviet proposal to mediate in the Iraqi conflict, he replied "We are a party to the issue who want peace and the Soviets offered their services which we accepted."

"We asked them for an agenda which they have not yet proposed to us. Of course, the U.N. secretary-general is ahead of them in this regard and talks will be held either in New York or somewhere else," said Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Commenting on Perez de Cuellar's proposed agenda for resumption of talks between the foreign ministers of the two countries, which was handed to the Iranian and Iraqi U.N. envoys, he reiterated "We accept no change nor will we accept anything but Resolution 598."

Asked about Iran's official stance on the massacre of Muslims in Indian controlled Kashmir, the president said "We strongly condemn the atrocities against the people of Kashmir."

"We have called on the New Delhi government to deal with them in a democratic manner especially in view of its promise to the U.N. to respect the vote of people in Kashmir."

Tanay Sought Rabbani Help in Kabul Coup Plot

LD0703180190 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Masshad (Khorasan), March 7, IRNA—The leader of the aborted coup in Afghanistan Lieutenant General Shahnawaz Tanay had sent an envoy to Jamiyat-e Eslami calling for formation of an advisory council composed of "his own supporters" and mujahidin, disclosed Burhanuddin Rabbani today.

In an exclusive talk with IRNA the Jamiyat-e leader said "Shahnawaz Tanay was quoted by his emissary as saying that he was ready to topple the Najibullah regime and

form a coalition with the mujahidin and that the latter should protect him and his coup officers."

Rabbani condemned such coups, and branded Tuesday's aborted attempt in Kabul a "farce."

Jamiyat-e Eslami turned the former defence minister's proposal and told Tanay's envoy "we will bravely fight our enemies to the war fronts," he added. [sentence as received]

Almost 90 percent of Afghanistan is under mujahidin control, and the situation of Najibullah's Marxist regime is "so critical that it is on the verge of collapse," said the mujahidin leader.

The mujahidin are confident of coming to power in Kabul through a revolutionary movement, he predicted.

Rabbani said withdrawal of a part of Soviet military forces from Afghanistan last year was a "propaganda stunt," and Moscow has replaced its forces with modern, automatic and advanced weapons.

"The Soviet Union grants \$400 million of economic aid to the Kabul regime every month in its bid to prop up the tottering regime financially," he concluded.

TEHRAN TIMES on Afghan Coup Attempt

*LD0803072790 Tehran IRNA in English 0711 GMT
8 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 8, IRNA—The English daily 'TEHRAN TIMES' Thursday commented on the Tuesday coup attempt in Kabul asking who would guarantee that Najibullah's regime would survive the next attempt.

The government of President Najibullah lost control over the capital for several hours during the Tuesday coup attempt apparently led by former Defence Minister Shahnawaz Khan [Tanay], said the English daily in its editorial.

Although the Tuesday coup in Afghanistan has apparently failed, the paper said that the next one "is just round the corner as long as a proxy Communist government is forcefully installed in this Muslim country".

The paper said, "Both the regime and its Kremlin supporters are missing the point. A regime that has to incessantly live under the shadow of fear will not always make it.

Consequently, the regime, its supporters and the nation in general will suffer the highest degree of insecurity a situation which will also hamper economic activities, added the editorial.

The daily reiterated that the Afghanistan crisis would only be solved if a popular government comes to office adding that the Muslim nation in Afghanistan would not accept "a regime subservient to any overseas lord".

"In reality the regime in Kabul, in spite of all the window-dressing employed to paper over its alienated nature from the Islam-oriented cultural milieu of the Afghan people, is seen as the fifth column of a foreign power in the country," said the daily.

It added that the recent coup has once again tolled the bells of danger for Najibullah's regime and the Soviet Union.

"There is just no loophole and the regime and its foreign supporters will have to succumb to a popular mandate one day," concluded the daily.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI on Kashmir, Afghanistan

*LD0803095790 Tehran IRNA in English 0937 GMT
8 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 8, IRNA—A morning daily Thursday stressed that the aggressive attitude of the Indian Government towards Muslims in Kashmir would have no outcome but to increase scope of furious protest of Muslims.

In a weekly commentary on recent bloody clashes in Kashmir, the Persian-language 'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' noted that the attitude of the Indian Government would also make the Muslims in Kashmir more determined to settle their disputes with the government once and for all.

Demands of Muslims in Kashmir are clear to the government, the commentary said adding that they were determined to regain their rights.

However, it noted, irrational reactions by the Indian Government further indicate that authorities and local forces have not yet realized [the] gravity of the situation.

Parallel to Kashmir Incidents, [the] situation in Afghanistan has once again deteriorated and a suspicious coup attempt failed to bring a major change in the political-military scene of Afghanistan, the commentary added.

Although details about the coup have not been released yet, identity of its masterminders indicate that they have 'pro-American' tendencies, the article commented.

If this happens to be the case, it seems that Washington despite secret agreements with Moscow has taken advantage of the Soviet Union's confusion in Afghanistan crisis and decided to "forcefully" take control of that country, it added.

Forces behind the coup "are in fact those who are not able to represent themselves in Afghanistan through a sound struggle with the lackey regime in Kabul," the daily noted.

"For this same reason", it added, "they have joined hands with the Kabul regime's agents."

This event, the commentary concluded, underscores the need for further reliance on domestic forces and prevent penetration of those who do not hesitate forming alliance with some elements in the Kabul regime. [as received]

Perez de Cuellar Presents Iran-Iraq Peace Plan

LD0703100190 Tehran IRNA in English 0652 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] United Nations, New York, March 7, IRNA—U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in a meeting here Tuesday [6 March] with Iran's permanent representative to the U.N. Kamal Kharrazi presented his proposed agenda for resumption of Iran-Iraq peace talks.

Both Iran and Iraq are to report views of their governments on the agenda to the secretary general within two weeks.

Perez de Cuellar held a similar meeting with the Iraqi representative to the U.N.

U.N. chief's proposed agenda includes reinforcement of ceasefire regulations, free navigation in the Persian Gulf, withdrawal of Iraqi forces, exchange of POWs and also settlement of Iraq-Iran disputes.

If finalized the talks are expected to start in mid-May under the supervision of Perez de Cuellar.

After release of the Security Council statement last Monday the Iraqi representative to the U.N. in a letter criticized it stating that the Security Council had failed to make any mention of the August 8, 1988 agreement and attributed the failure to deliberate efforts of Perez de Cuellar.

Meets With Envoys

NC0703115090 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, has held separate meetings with the envoys of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq at the premises of the UN headquarters and presented them with the agenda for the implementation of Resolution 598. Our correspondent has sent us a report in this regard which we will listen to together:

[Begin correspondent recording] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar met Kamal Kharrazi, the envoy and permanent UN representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 0100 this morning, Tehran time. At this meeting, the UN secretary general presented the draft of the initial agenda for the next round of talks between Iran and Iraq, within the framework of the UN Security Council's Resolution 598 under the supervision of the UN secretary general, to the permanent Iranian representative to the United Nations.

A spokesman from the office of the Islamic Republic of Iran's mission at the United Nations, making no comment on the contents of the draft presented by the UN

secretary general, announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran would study this draft and convey the results to the UN Secretariat.

The UN secretary general also met the Iraqi envoy at the United Nations last night and presented a similar draft to him. Two weeks ago, the Security Council, in its first statement in the 18 months since the cease-fire between Iran and Iraq, expressed its support for the UN secretary general's efforts regarding Resolution 598 and his report to the Security Council and dated 22 September 1989 on the establishment of peace between the two countries. Following the dissemination of this statement, the UN secretary general had embarked on the task of preparing the draft for the next round of Iran-Iraq talks. From the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, London. [end recording]

Peace Plan Detailed

LD0703234990 Tehran IRNA in English 1621 GMT
7 Mar 90

[Text] Tehran, March 7, IRNA—U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar today handed to the representatives of both Iran and Iraq at the United Nations Headquarters, his proposed agenda for resumption of peace talks to implement Security Council Resolution 598.

He also called on the two countries to inform him of their viewpoints within two weeks regarding his 8-point agenda.

The following is the text of Perez de Cuellar's proposed agenda:

1. Further arrangements relating to the cease-fire and freedom of navigation on the high seas and in the Strait of Hormuz.
2. Immediate withdrawal of all forces to the internationally recognized borders, and its verification, confirmation and supervision by the United Nations.
3. Release and repatriation of POWs without delay in accordance with the 3rd Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949.
4. Cooperation with the secretary-general in mediation efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just and honourable settlement, acceptable to both sides, of all outstanding issues, in accordance with the principles of the U.N. Charter. Dredging of the Shatt-Al-Arab and restoring its navigational use for the benefit of the two parties.
5. Exploration by the secretary-general in consultation with Iran and Iraq, of the question of entrusting an impartial body with inquiring into responsibility for the conflict.
6. Assignment by the secretary-general of a team of experts to study the question of reconstruction.

7. Examination by the secretary-general, in consultation with Iran and Iraq and with other regional states, of measures to enhance the security and stability of the region.

8. Mutual assurances with regard to the integrated whole nature of the resolution and to the esta [as received] relations.

Iraqi Stance on Resolution 598 Chided

*LD0803094190 Tehran IRNA in English 0817 GMT
8 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 8, IRNA—In a review of the main topics of the week the Persian daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI reflected on the economic situation on the home front, and on the latest developments in relation with the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 on Iran-Iraq peace talks.

The daily said that the economic front is plagued by people who persist on making money by illegal and economically unwholesome methods. It said this group of businessmen are too wicked to yield to mere advice and recommendation. It added that the government would be better advised to deal with them with less condonation and in order to ensure the success of the government's economic plans, and safeguard the rights of the citizens.

On the Iran-Iraq peace talks and the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, the daily said that since the resolution was issued the Iraqi Government has continuously tried to distort provisions of the resolution. To this end it has introduced irrelevant topics into the document with a view to subordinate certain issues in the resolution to certain other issues to the interest of the Iraqi Government.

It said the developments in that relation during the last 18 months is sufficient evidence that the Iraqi Government is not opting for constructive talks.

The daily noted that the Islamic Government has already made it clear that it will not settle for anything short of what has been provided for in the U.N. Security Council resolution.

'Large Number' of Casualties in Tehran Protests

*TA0703173990 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom
Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] On Tuesday, 6 March, Tehran was once again transformed into an arena of the people's intensive demonstrations against the regime. According to reports more than 70,000 people took part in these demonstrations, with participants chanting slogans against the regime. A large number of persons were wounded and killed as a result of shooting by the regime's agents. Eleven Hezbollah guards were also killed in the clashes.

Velayati Returns From 5-Country African Tour

*NC0703075990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 7 Mar 90*

[Text] Our foreign minister, Mr. Velayati, who was on a visit to the West African countries of Ghana, Senegal, Mali, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria for official talks, returned to Tehran this morning.

According to the Central News Unit, Mr. Velayati, commenting on the outcome of this visit, said: During this visit to five West African countries, talks were held with the presidents of these countries and other officials. International issues as well as matters of mutual interest were discussed and we explained the Islamic Republic of Iran's efforts to bring about the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Our foreign minister added: Ghana is to host the Non-aligned Movement foreign ministers conference in the near future and Senegal will play host to the Islamic Conference Organization session in 1990-91. Mali held the chairmanship of the African countries until now. Recent victories for the Africans, such as the forthcoming independence of Namibia and the release of Nelson Mandela, the leader of the South African blacks, caused us, during our visit to these countries, to rejoice over these victories. Our visit was also for the consolidation of political, economic, and cultural ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and these countries.

Omani Envoy Encourages Expanding Relations

*LD0603113690 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT
6 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 6, IRNA—Omani Ambassador to Tehran Abdul Alim bin-Mustahil [name as received] met with the first presidential advisor Hasan Habibi here Monday and called for expansion of Tehran-Muscat ties in the light of long-standing bilateral relations.

The Omani diplomat also expressed hope that through joint efforts of the two countries, regional states will live in peace, understanding and security.

Habibi, appreciating efforts of Oman, said that Oman Sea and the Persian Gulf belonged to the littoral states. He stressed that unity and understanding among the states is essential to stability of the region, security of the Persian Gulf and deterring foreign interference.

The Iranian official expressed hope that Oman will explain to regional states Iran's rightful stands concerning establishment of a lasting peace in the region and full implementation of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Imports of Oil Products To Cease by End of Plan

*LD0503140490 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT
5 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 5, IRNA—Iran will cease import of oil products by the end of its first 5-year development plan, to be launched in the near future, Deputy Oil Minister and Managing Director of National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) Mohammad Esma'il Karachian was quoted as saying.

In an interview published in [the] Monday edition of the Persian language daily 'ABRAR', Karachian added that natural gas resources could meet [the] country's energy needs for 10 years.

Citing the programs of the NIGC's in the five-year plan, he said the objectives are: raising the capacity of gas refineries from 28 to 128 million cubic meters per day by 1994, supplying gas to 200 cities—double the present figure, increasing the number of gas-fuelled power stations from 15 to 23, and gas-fuelling about 22,000 vehicles in Tehran and northeastern city of Mashhad.

Karachian noted that presently a sum of over one billion dollars worth of oil products, [which] used to be imported annually, was being saved due to the substitution of gas for other oil products.

On the future of gas industries in Iran, Karachian told ABRAR that natural gas resources in the country, estimated at about 17 trillion cubic meters, made Iran the second in the world.

Therefore, he added, in the light of population growth and depletion of oil resources, natural gas resources are expected to play a greater role in the field of energy in future.

Government To Publish Drug-Related Execution List

*LD0803111690 Tehran IRNA in English 1008 GMT
8 Mar 90*

[Text] Tehran, March 8, IRNA—The Islamic government is shortly to publish a full list of names and particulars of all persons found guilty of drug trafficking and executed on same charges since the culmination of the Islamic revolution on February 11, 1979.

The list, said Mokhtar Kalantari of the Narcotics Control Headquarters in Tehran, "will be a response to obnoxious foreign propaganda and the conspiracies against the Islamic Republic by the world arrogance."

The official of the Narcotics Control Headquarters said that the Islamic Republic has been relatively successful in its fight against drug abuse and narcotics trafficking, and would be willing to cooperate more fully with her neighboring countries in order to put an end to drug trafficking. He said drug abuse has recently been on the increase even in the Soviet Union and that to that end Iran is willing and able to cooperate with the Soviet Government.

According to the official since the turn of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21, 1989) 19,241 drug traffickers including 735 nationals from Pakistan, Turkey, India, Bangladesh, and mainly Afghanistan have been arrested. During the same period, he said, 395 pieces of fire arms and 400 motor vehicles have been seized from the traffickers.

In addition, Kalantari said, 66,000 addicts have been arrested since March 21, 1989.

Addiction to narcotics is punishable by arrest and confinement to rehabilitation centers in Iran.

The narcotics control official said that this year the headquarters received about 18,000 voluntary reports by citizens on drug-related activities of suspects the bulk of which, he said, had helped the officials to identify and arrest suspects.

A U.N. sub-committee on drug control is to meet in Tehran next September with representatives from the Persian Gulf states as well as Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkey, and India.

Fajr-3 Missile Reaches Mass Production Stage

*LD0303232290 Tehran in English to Europe 1930
GMT
3 Mar 90*

[Text] On the auspicious birth anniversary of His Holiness Abolfadhi al-'Abbas [2 March], peace be upon him, a number of missiles named Fajr-3 were tested yesterday. According to our correspondent, this type of missile, which is made by the missile industry group of the Islamic Republic of Iran's defense industries organization, has reached the stage of mass production. The report added: The missile is of the rapid reaction type and covers a 45-km area of the enemy.

Repaired F-5 Plane Makes First Test Flight

*LD0303225690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 3 Mar 90*

[Text] The first test flight of an F-5 fighter aircraft, which had been repaired by our country's Air Force experts, took place at noon today.

According to a Central News Unit report, the aircraft, which took 25,000 hours [as heard] to repair, was severely damaged in the wing, fuselage, and cabin during the imposed war. Thanks to the efforts of the Tabriz Second Fighter Base experts, the aircraft was repaired and went on its test flight at noon today, in the presence of the representative of the Jurisconsult in Azerbaijan, the governor general of East Azerbaijan, and a number of Air Force commanders and officials.

Clandestine Radio Reports on Unrest, Suppression

LD2803233290 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian
Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 27 Feb 90

[Text] Reports received from our homeland indicate the continuation of political unrest and the intense activity of the officials to control the situation in the country. We listen to a report on this issue:

Tehran Radio reported that yesterday the commanders of the Ground Forces met with Karrubi. In this meeting Karrubi praised the Armed Forces and their services and said that they [the leading members of the regime] had not allowed the Armed Forces to be dissolved. He asked the military personnel to be active in defending the revolution. A day earlier Ahmad Khomeyni had a meeting with the commanders of the Ground Forces and the Navy and claimed there had been a bond between the military men and Khomeyni from the early years of the forties [Iranian 1340s—1960s when Khomeyni first started his anti-shah activities]. A few days earlier Khamene'i met with the Armed Forces commanders. In that meeting he stressed the need to observe discipline in the Armed Forces and called on the Armed Forces to be on the alert everywhere and to act with vigilance.

The repeated meetings of the officials with the Armed Forces take place simultaneously with their meetings with the commanders and officials of the guards [corps] and [revolution] committees. As you know, during the past few days they have summoned the commanders and the officials of the security and intelligence units of the revolution guards to take part in a seminar. After the seminar they met with Yazdi, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Ahmad Khomeyni, and others. In all these meetings what was of significance was the emphasis of the first-ranking officials of the government on the establishment of security and public order and confronting the so-called insurgents.

The Guards Corps ideological-political officials then gathered together in Tehran. There was a great deal of discussion about them receiving guidance from the officials. Side by side with all these activities, the units of the [revolution] committees were also mobilized throughout the country to combat the so-called [narcotics] smugglers and were stationed in 1,050 centers in the country. In practice, the meaning of this action was the declaration of an unofficial martial law. At the same time, we have received reports saying the control and security of sports centers have been placed in the hands of the Guards Corps. According to the Zafariyyeh plan the control of roads and cities has also been entrusted to the guards and the committees.

Side by side with these activities by the officials at the head of governmental pyramid for keeping the Armed Forces in a state of alert, the judicial system of the

country has also resorted to an unprecedented action. It has set up summary courts [dadgah-haye sahra'i] in all the towns of the country. The duty of these courts is to convict the leaders of the recent events [demonstrations] in the country and those who have been arrested. One of the activities of these courts, which has already been implemented, is the execution of nearly 40 persons in a large number of cities in public view. All these activities are coordinated by the National Security Council under the chairmanship of Hashemi-Rafsanjani, which has had many meetings during the past 10 days. As can be seen, the most pivotal topic in those sessions is the manner of confronting the critical situation existing in the country which has come about as the result of the expansion of protests.

All these efforts are in connection with two very important developments that have manifested themselves during the past 10 days. The first issue is the extension of demonstrations and protests of the ordinary people of the country. As Radio Toilers has repeatedly announced, these demonstrations are the signs of the protests of the masses of the people and are basically anti-government protests and are directed against the leaders of the regime. The important point is the continuation of these demonstrations. The demonstrations of the people of Tehran and other cities have, in fact, continued nonstop for the past 10 days. The continuation of the demonstrations under the conditions of repeated suppression is the sign of the strength of people's stamina for protests and their lack of fear.

The reports which have been received from various cities in Kordestan show that the level of protest and struggle in that area is very high and that protests are continuing in most cities. These protests, which have their origin in a climate of suppression and the difficult conditions of life, and in view of their characteristics, have given rise to a great deal of anxiety among the leaders of the regime. Now they feel that they are confronting the people.

The second issue is the increase in the rift among the ruling clerics, which is demonstrating itself in the form of a growing opposition to the leadership of Khamene'i. The scope of this rift has reached such a level that, for the first time, it has been openly and officially raised in the society by one of the influential clerics.

As the result, the political situation under the influence of these two problems has reached the stage that while in the lower ranks the struggle of the people is growing and the leaders of the regime are in need of greater unity than in the past to confront it, at the same time, they are witnessing an increase in their differences. To suppress the voice of protest in the lower ranks and to weaken the effects of the opposition within the ruling clique, the leaders of the regime have reached this conclusion that they should pay greater attention to the Armed Forces.

Pakistan

Spokesman Denies Involvement in Afghan Crisis

BK0803010690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman categorically denied reports about Pakistan's involvement in the rebellion that began in Kabul yesterday against the puppet regime of Dr. Najibullah.

A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad this evening that events of far-reaching importance have been taking place in Afghanistan since yesterday afternoon. This has once again proved that the Najibullah regime is very weak and a victim of divisiveness, as many of its Army commanders and the entire Air Force have rebelled against it. This has once again proved that the solution to the current crisis lies only in the formation of a broad-based government which represents all Afghan factions.

Bhutto Reviews Afghan Situation, Apprises Khan

BK0803052690 Islamabad Overseas Service in Urdu
0500 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has reviewed the current situation in Afghanistan at a high-level meeting in Islamabad. (?Relevant) organizations have been instructed to watch and observe the situation closely.

The prime minister later called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and apprised him of the latest situation in Afghanistan.

Commentary Views Causes of Afghan 'Revolt'

BK0803075890 Islamabad Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Commentary by Syed Nazir Bukhari: "The Revolt in Afghanistan Against the Najibullah Administration"]

[Text] Reports from Kabul speak of a revolt against the repressive administration of Dr. Najibullah, and the forces opposed to the regime are fighting in the capital and elsewhere in the country. According to these reports, troops loyal to the Afghan defense minister, General Shahnawaz, as well as some mujahidin groups, are struggling to topple the regime, which is the last relic of the externally imposed arrangement in Afghanistan.

Though Dr. Najibullah has claimed that he has put down the revolt, yet from the latest information received from across the border it stands confirmed that almost the entire Afghan Air Force has joined the nationalist forces fighting against the Najib regime. Dr. Najibullah has left Kabul city to a safer place, from where he is making a last ditch effort to save his crumbling government.

The events in the last 24 hours reveal that the Kabul administration, which was being described by the Western media as a very strong regime, is now being

brought down by a force led by its own defense minister. Normally, in dictatorships, it is the defense minister who gives a regime the necessary strength to stand on its feet. This foundation of the Najibullah regime now stands dismantled.

The nationalist revolt against Dr. Najibullah proves many things. It shows that contrary to Western assessment, Najibullah was not at all a strong man of Afghanistan. His policies were such that even his defense minister could not support him for long. The whole house was divided, and the regime was operating only on the basis of military strength. This military machine acting like a robot not only denied the Afghan mujahidin their victories but also kept the people under a state of terror. It also proved that a man like General Shahnawaz, who was known as a hard-liner vis-a-vis the mujahidin, could not tolerate the continued fighting inside the country and the antipeople policies of Dr. Najibullah. The stories of differences between the two Afghan leaders were becoming public. It has been reported that General Shahnawaz had resented Dr. Najibullah's efforts to increase his dictatorial powers. Many Afghan leaders who opposed Dr. Najibullah's policies were indiscriminately arrested and kept behind bars.

On the political front, Dr. Najibullah could not succeed in implementing his much trumpeted reconciliation policy, and the Afghan society remained divided and estranged as before. He did not take any concrete steps for political reconciliation among various Afghan groups and hardly moved toward bring about a broad-based or a representative government in Afghanistan. He even failed to reconcile the differences among the leaders of his own ruling party. The general public was fed up with the status quo and the political stalemate. All these factors seem to have contributed in helping his defense minister to take the final decision and rise against Dr. Najibullah, whose removal from power could perhaps stop further bloodshed in Afghanistan.

The policies of Dr. Najibullah have divided the Afghan nation. The country is divided into different power centers either governed by mujahidin [word indistinct] or by unpopular governors. He and his predecessors were largely responsible for a war that has cost the Afghan nation 1 million lives and filled Pakistan and Iran with 5 million Afghan refugees. Despite his repeated claims as a (?man) of peace, his records put him at a disadvantage as a peacemaker.

Political analysts say that present popular revolt is likely to give a fatal blow to the regime of Dr. Najibullah, and even if he survives, this revolt (?and) the resulting confusion would leave him in absolute tatters.

Paper Reports Afghan Convoy Reaches Peshawar

BK0603101990 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 6 Mar p 4

["From our bureau"]

[Text] Peshawar—The first convoy of traders goods reached local markets from Afghan via Towr Kham after reopening of trade route between Kabul and Peshawar.

It may be added here that the trade between Peshawar and Kabul was suspended in November last when the Afghan Mujahidin captured the border military posts of Afghan government at Towr Kham. Since then business was also stopped and hundreds of trucks loaded with goods were also held in Peshawar and Kabul.

The road opened for traffic on Feb. 25 last under an agreement between the tribal traders and leaders of the Interim Government.

Haji Khailali Khan, President of the Tribal Traders, informed THE PAKISTAN TIMES on telephone that a convoy consisting of 30 trucks reached Peshawar from Kabul while same number of trucks on their way to Peshawar [as published]. He said that with reaching these trucks into local markets from Afghanistan prices of various commodities decreased very sharply.

He further said that a delegation of the traders under his leadership would leave for Kabul in the next few days where they would remove the remaining hurdles from the business between the tribal and Afghan traders.

Ishaq Khan, Bhutto Attend Security Briefing 6 Mar

BK0603155190 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 6 Mar 90

[Text] President Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto attended a briefing on the security situation in the country at the Joint Staff Headquarters today. Colonel Ghulam Sarwar Cheema, retired, minister of state for defense; the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee; three service chiefs; and the defense secretary also attended the briefing.

House Speaker Holds News Conference on USSR Visit

BK0703170390 Islamabad Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] The speaker of the National Assembly, Malik Mairaj Khalid, says the new Soviet leadership is keen to improve relations with Pakistan. He was addressing a news conference in Islamabad today on return from a visit to the Soviet Union as the head of the parliamentary delegation. He said there was a lot of accommodation and goodwill for Pakistan on the level of the governments and people. They want to build relations with Pakistan on a new basis by removing suspicion and peacefully resolving differences.

On Afghanistan, he said there was a general condemnation of the Soviet military intervention in that country and a genuine desire to restore peace by installing a broad-based government.

On Kashmir, Malik Mairaj Khalid said they explained to the Soviet leadership that the latest uprising in Kashmir was part of the wave of freedom and democratic rights sweeping the world.

Food Minister Discusses "Successful" Moscow Trip

BK0803093490 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, the minister of state for food and agriculture, has described his visit to the Soviet Union as successful and expressed the hope that bilateral relations in the field of agriculture will be further strengthened in the coming years.

He told newsmen on his return to Islamabad from Moscow that he held discussions with his Soviet counterpart on the possibilities of starting joint ventures in chemical fertilizers, fisheries, wheat, and fruit and vegetable production.

Sri Lanka

PFLT Denounces Declaration of Tamil State

BK0703115990 Colombo International Service
in English 1045 GMT 7 Mar 90

[Text] The Politburo of the People's Front of Liberation Tigers [PFLT] condemns the unilateral declaration of a separate state of Eelam by the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] administration as fraudulent, ridiculous, and irresponsible. In a statement the PFLT categorized the declaration as the mockery of their people's struggle for a legitimate cause. The statement issued by the PFLT headquarters points out that the ENDLF [Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front] and EPRLF are pawns in the hand of external forces and they have no sincere interests in the welfare of the people.

The statement points out that these two parties are neither the representatives of the Tamil people, nor have they been given a mandate by them. Varadraja Perumal's provincial administration is not a democratically constituted political entity. Rather, it was installed by a former Indian Government and by the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] and has become totally defunct. With the imminent withdrawal of the IPKF and the inevitable collapse of the Northeast Provincial Council, Mr. Perumal has made this declaration to confuse Tamil people and to create a confrontationist situation with the Sri Lanka Government aimed to prolong the Indian troops withdrawal and to perpetuate his political power. By this declaration, Mr. Perumal has virtually dissolved the provincial council, the PFLT statement added.

Unlike these quisling groups, the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] has been fighting for legitimate rights of the Tamils for the last 17 years and as the legitimate representatives of the Tamil people, the LTTE members have been talking with the president to find a

solution to the ethnic problem. The LTTE has entered the democratic process and has the fullest support of the Tamil-speaking people. This will be amply demonstrated when fresh elections are held.

The statement points out that negotiations with the president have been cordial and constructive and have already brought forth tangible results. The PLFT expressed the confidence that the negotiations would help to find a solution that is acceptable to the Tamil people.

Government To Consider Repealing Secession Clause

BK0803121890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1155 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Colombo, March 8 (AFP)—The Sri Lankan Government will consider a demand for the repeal of a constitutional amendment which makes espousal of secession an offence, Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said Thursday [8 March]. "If the sixth amendment is an impediment it will be given due consideration," the minister said in reply to questions at his weekly press briefing.

The controversial amendment, enacted in the wake of the island's worst anti-Tamil riots in July 1983, obligates politicians and political parties to disavow separatism and pledge loyalty to the unitary constitution. Members of the only Tamil political party then represented in parliament, the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), refused to take the loyalty oath and quit the house.

The dominant Tamil rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), has been holding peace talks with the government and has demanded the repeal of the amendment as a pre-condition to its entering mainstream politics.

"Any impediments to the unity of (the) communities in Sri Lanka will be removed. The president is emphatic on that. We cannot live in ivory towers," Mr. Wijeratne said. "Even a mental impediment will be removed," he added.

The minister said that in the past both the majority Sinhalese and the Tamils may have made mistakes. "Why talk about history? Let's talk history of the future," he said.

The minister denied that the LTTE's demand restrained the government from taking action against the independence declaration of the council in Tamil-majority Northeastern Province on March 1. He said the government was considering the constitutional aspects of the provincial council's action. "We have tread on mines and booby traps in the past. Now we are using mine detectors to avoid getting blasted," he said, declining to identify the political explosives to which he referred.

The Northeastern Provincial Council, controlled by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front

(EPRLF), passed a resolution declaring itself the "National Assembly of The Democratic Republic of Eelam." The Sinhalese political parties and the EPRLF's rival Tamil groups, including the LTTE, condemned the council's action and demanded its dissolution by the government.

Mr. Wijeratne also said the government had ordered the arrest of all those found in possession of unlicensed weapons and explosives following the lapse of a March 1 deadline for the surrender of the weapons. Mr. Wijeratne, who is also the junior defence minister, said 600 weapons had been surrendered as of Thursday. "The government has decided that no further warnings will be issued," he said, adding that the police had been instructed to search for the weapons and arrest those who possessed them. There are no official estimates of the number of unlicensed firearms in the country.

The government had issued a large number of firearms to politicians and their supporters for self-defence at the height of a violent campaign last year by the Sinhalese rebel group the People's Liberation Front (JVP).

Although violence by the rebels has been largely brought under control after the elimination of their top leadership in November, killings by so-called vigilante groups, often linked to the security forces, have continued. President Ranasinghe Premadasa told a public meeting last week that the Armed Forces must bring the killer squads to justice as they were a "disgrace" to the country.

Police Reveal Slain IPS Journalist JVP Activist

BK0203121390 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1058 GMT 2 Mar 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 2 Mar (LANKAPUVATH)—Police told LANKAPUVATH that investigations into the death of 32-year-old journalist Richard De Zoysa have revealed that he was a JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] activist working with the JVP military wing and allegedly sending out death threats to fellow journalists, and printing notices on behalf of the deputy JVP leader Upatissa Gamanayake, which was largely responsible for the fear psychosis, which gripped the country until the elimination of the JVP leadership.

Police said that investigations had also allegedly revealed that Mr. De Zoysa had used INTER PRESS SERVICE news agency to transmit several false messages on human rights violations in Sri Lanka, including that of the killing of senior broadcaster Mr. Mark Anthony Fernando and Mrs Fernando, who are both very much alive.

He had recently spent several days in the southern district of Matara and was warded in hospital for a reportedly incurable ailment for which police said he had received treatment abroad.

Police investigations are also being directed at the news agency being used as a centre for false propaganda to damage the image of Sri Lanka.

Mr. De Zoysa was abducted from his home in the early hours of last Sunday morning [as received]. His body was found washed ashore on the beach of a Colombo south suburb.

The police are making all efforts to trace his killers.

Speedy Implementation of Rule of Law Urged

BK0703092190 Colombo SUN in English 23 Feb 90 p 7

[Editorial: "Of Rights and Wrongs"]

[Text] Sri Lanka has been mentioned adversely in the U.S. State Department's 1989 Report on Global Human Rights. And according to a report from our Washington correspondent it cited 8,500 political killings in the country during the past one year.

The report quite understandably blames various groups for the killings. Among them the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna], the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam], the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] and also the security forces.

The people of Sri Lanka are fully aware of the situation that prevails. They also suffer from a terrifying fear psychosis as the shadows at night armed to their teeth continue their bizarre abductions and executions.

The government is also cognisant of this morbid reality. It is apparently taking a serious view of the crisis.

Yesterday speaking to newsmen the Foreign Minister said that the President himself was worried about the ongoing rights violations and that every possible remedial action would be taken to curb them.

The government is admittedly concerned about elements opposed to it trying to tarnish its good image by committing senseless murders trying to pass them off as state-sponsored terror.

Whoever is responsible for such misdeeds deserve to be exposed and penalised according to the law.

Indeed some positive steps have been initiated by the government to defuse the allegations of abuse and misuse of power by the authorities.

Recently it repealed certain draconian sections in the Emergency Laws that gave powers to law enforcers to dispose of bodies without inquests.

Regrettably the ground situation in the country seems to have facilitated the diabolic opportunists.

The government must also seek an effective deterrent perhaps through recourse to judicial action against the violators.

The criminal elements must be exposed and justice meted out. It needs public cooperation too.

It must ensure that nothing goes beyond its control. The nation seems to be at the brink and it must be salvaged before apocalypse sets in.

We welcome the new resolve of the government made public at yesterday's press briefing.

Sri Lanka cannot afford to be at the receiving end of global rebuke for the actions of a measly handful. The nation needs "no desperate remedies for desperate situations" any more as the security situation has improved considerably during the past few months.

The U.S. government which wields considerable influence in global fora has also acclaimed Lankan action in repealing the controversial emergency provisions.

The speedy implementation of the rule of law at all times will undoubtedly help the government withstand any alien campaigns to tarnish its good image.

The world community cannot overlook the terrible days of anarchy and bloody violence when terrorism was at its heyday in this country. Now that the bad days have been overcome, the need to rehabilitate the law enforcement systems is imperative.

Paper on Indian, Tamil 'Dirty Tricks' in Colombo

BK0203130490 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 16 Feb 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Dirty Tricks in the City?"]

[Text] The news that broke at Wednesday's All-Party Conference (APC), that a number of young Tamils carrying weapons had been arrested in Colombo was, to say the least, most disturbing.

Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne, who wears a second hat as State Minister for Defence, went on record saying that the government had information that RAW, India's Research and Analysis Wing, known to have played a not inconsiderable role in the troubled north and east, was now attempting to de-stabilise the city of Colombo. Mr. Wijeratne, who is responsible for the day-to-day security operations of the country, would not be unmindful of the serious implications of the statement he made. As Foreign Minister, he is responsible for the conduct of the country's foreign relations and he would not lightly fling around allegations about our giant neighbour and her activities.

Sri Lanka, after all, deeply values good relations with India; in fact, it is almost axiomatic that these relations form the cornerstone of this country's foreign policy. It is, therefore, clear that our government has good reason to say what has just been said.

It has been fairly wellknown that a number of young Tamils, some of them carrying arms, fled their homes in the northern and eastern provinces when the EPRLF

[Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] and its cohorts began conscripting teenagers and young adults into their so-called Tamil National Army. Then, there were those who sought sanctuary in Colombo from the wrath of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam].

Earlier, the security authorities confirmed that some of the arms that had been used by various separatist groups were being hawked in Colombo; and it is not outside the bounds of possibility that hitmen, who took advantage of last year's tension, used some of these weapons for contract killings.

Many EPRLF activists are expected to go to India with the departing IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force]; and sections of the Indian media, notably in Tamil Nadu, have already expressed reservations about the desirability of letting such elements into their country. The Indians, after all, have had bitter experience of the doings of some of these "freedom fighters" not too long ago.

A spokesman for the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress told the APC that hundreds of Tamils were being rounded-up by the police in Colombo, and that police stations were full of them.

Mr. Wijeratne said that some of them were "dicey" characters, and in his usual racy manner promised that those involved with RAW could expect "the works".

If these people were merely seeking sanctuary in Colombo, why did they bring their arms with them? Self-defence would be the ready answer; and that cannot be entirely discounted, considering the past experience of these groups going for each other in Colombo.

The government certainly cannot allow any foreign intelligence agency, be it RAW or anybody else, to do any dirty tricks in the capital city. Nor will shoot-outs between competing Tamil groups in Colombo be acceptable to anybody. The citizens of Colombo deeply value the hard-won peace they now enjoy.

All those rounded up by the police may not be miscreants. There would be many who are now in Colombo for reasons of safety. But the authorities cannot help but take serious notice of those who are found to be in possession of arms.

Those lodging in premises where arms are found must, necessarily, be checked—especially recent arrivals from the theatres of fighting. Innocents must not be needlessly detained. Their best protection will be to ensure that they harbour no serpents in their bosoms.